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VOTES FOR WOMEN

EDITED BY FREDERICK AND EMMELINE PETHICK LAWRENCE.

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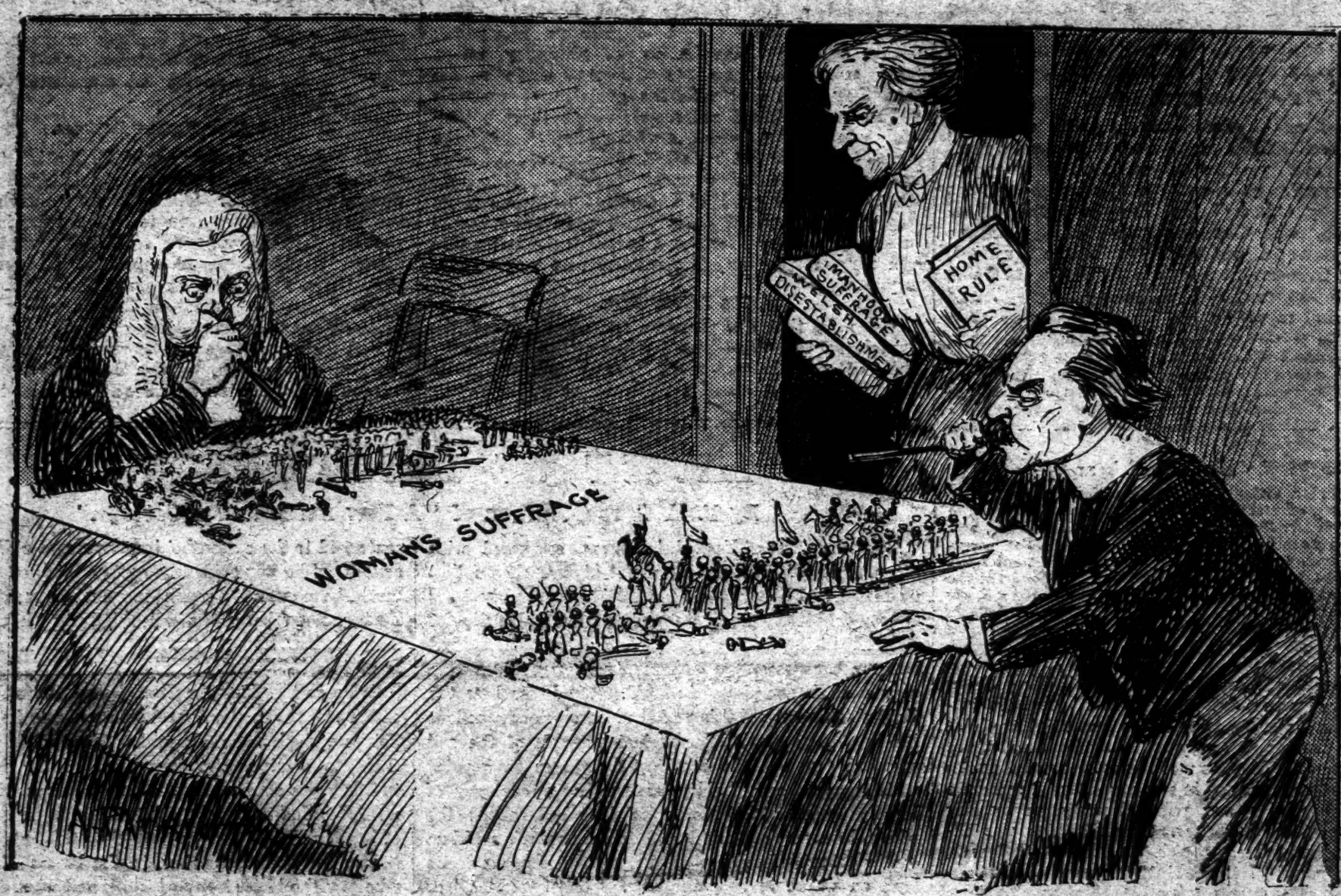

PLAYING AT SOLDIERS.

[Mr. Lloyd George is to advocate Woman Suffrage in the Albert Hall on February 23, and Lord Loreburn (the Lord Chancellor) and Mr. Harcourt are announced to speak against Woman Suffrage in the same Hall on February 28.]

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To the brave women who to-day are fighting for freedom: to the noble women who all down the ages kept the flag flying and looked forward to this day without seeing it: to all women all over the world, of whatever race, or creed, or calling, whether they be with us or against us in this fight, we dedicate this paper.

THE OUTLOOK.

Sir Edward Grey and Mr. Lloyd George are to open the Ministerial campaign in favour of Votes for Women at the Albert Hall on February 23, under the auspices of the non-militant Suffragists. In the following week, on February 28, Lord Loreburn (the Lord Chancellor) and Mr. Lewis Harcourt will be the principal speakers at a mass meeting to be held at the same place under the auspices of the National Society for Opposing Women's Suffrage. "These meetings," says the *Standard*, "will afford the first occasion on which the split in the Cabinet on Woman Suffrage is to be manifested to the people at large, and it cannot be doubted that the strong feelings which will be aroused in political circles in consequence will place a severe strain on general party loyalty and discipline."

A Political Phenomenon!

The fact that the public advocacy of Woman Suffrage by Mr. Lloyd George is to receive a counterblast of public denunciation of his policy on the part of some of his Ministerial colleagues seems to have created something like a political sensation in the journalistic world. The Lobby Correspondent of the *Standard* alludes to this exploitation on a public platform of a far-reaching division of opinion among members of a Cabinet which continues to be responsible for the government of the country as "a political phenomenon which is utterly unfamiliar to the people of the United Kingdom." Yet this immediate result of a preposterous political situation was categorically foretold in VOTES FOR WOMEN at the very moment when the absurd offer of an "open" amendment to the Reform Bill in lieu of Government responsibility was rejected by the Women's Social and Political Union.

Government "Split."

During the past week startling headlines have appeared on the posters of Unionist papers. "Government split over Votes for Women" has flamed in red letters, even in out-of-the-way villages and hamlets, from the hoardings. The *Daily Mail*, the *Standard*, the *Pall Mall Gazette*, the *Evening News*, amongst other journals have published leading articles upon the exceedingly anomalous position in which the Prime Minister of this country finds himself. However various are the points of view expressed, one and all seem to agree with the *Spectator*, that "the situation thus created in which some members of the same Cabinet engage in open conflict is unprecedented. It is an absolute negation of Cabinet solidarity." A significant leading article in the *Pall Mall Gazette* points out that—

> The moral responsibility of Government in this and every other country has hitherto depended upon the maintenance of at least one principle. When Ministers have reached a point of complete inability to agree on any vital question of the day, they have recognised the necessity of resigning office. Mr. Gladstone and his principal lieutenants parted because they were unable to agree on Home Rule. The Unionist Ministry of 1903 broke up because Tariff Reformers and Free Traders refused to sit in the same Ministry. . . . The deliberate attempt of Ministers to remain in office by facing both ways would reduce politics once for all to a cynical game finally stripped of every vestige of decency.

Ministerial Responsibility.

With this exposition of Cabinet responsibility Mr. Asquith was at one time in complete accord. In the debate on the Corn Duty on June 10, 1903, Mr. Asquith spoke on the differences of opinion among the Ministers then holding office—Mr. Ritchie on the one hand and Mr. Chamberlain on the other—and also criticised the non-committal attitude of Mr. Balfour as Prime Minister. He further said:

> It is an entire departure from the traditions and rules of our public life that in a matter of this kind and of this importance responsible Ministers, the Ministers immediately and directly responsible, should be allowed not merely to emit on public platforms discordant opinions but to pose as propagandists—for that is what they are doing—of two wholly irreconcilable views of a public policy which one of them, at any rate, declares he intends to make a cardinal issue at the next general election. That, to my mind, is the real significance of the situation in which we are placed; and I have risen for the purpose, in these

few words, of uttering a protest, not only on behalf of the Opposition, but I believe on behalf of the vast majority of members on both sides of the House, against a practice which if once allowed would put an end to Ministerial responsibility and Cabinet Government.

What will be the Outcome?

What is the meaning of this attempt on the part of the Government to play fast and loose with a great political question like Woman Suffrage, and in so doing to act in defiance of all the accepted theories of Cabinet solidarity and Cabinet responsibility? And what will be the outcome? A section of the Unionist Press sees in the Cabinet split on Woman Suffrage a portent of disaster to the Government, and thinks that the Coalition will break up and that the Liberal Administration will go to pieces in the very near future. "The Suffrage question," according to the *Weekly Dispatch*, "may represent the Waterloo of Mr. Asquith's Ministerial career." The *Daily Telegraph* declares that "there is deep misgiving as to the probable effects of this momentous question upon Ministerial fortunes," and again: "There is reason to believe that danger, if not defeat, awaits the Government in general and the Prime Minister in particular during the coming session, on the question of Women's Suffrage." The *Evening Times* considers that the division in the Cabinet may "lead to the break-up of the Radical Party."

Mr. Asquith's Dexterity.

Other sections of the Press share the view that although "the question seems certain to have a more disturbing, and perhaps catastrophic, effect upon political prospects than up to a few weeks ago was anticipated by anyone," the "supple dexterity" of Mr. Asquith, who has transformed the question: "Shall women get the vote?" into the question, "Shall the Government remain a Government?" will provide a way of escape. The *Evening Telegraph and Post* (Dundee) says:—

> The situation is, therefore, one full of uncertainties. It is pregnant with possibilities, but the most probable outcome will be that the women, who consider themselves entitled to equal electoral privileges with men, will be called upon to wait a little longer before attaining their object. The chances are all in favour of the Cabinet as a whole following the line of least resistance.

According to the *Sheffield Daily Telegraph*—

> Radicals find a difficulty in keeping their tempers when Women's Suffrage is mentioned nowadays, and sometimes fall to open reviling of Mr. Asquith for promising Adult Suffrage, and so forcing a crisis in Cabinet and party. Some old Parliamentarians, however, think that their leader knows what he is about, and that having killed the moderate proposals of the Conciliation Bill, which might have succeeded, he will see that the universal scheme never gets a chance to go so far that his colleagues need quarrel over it.

Our Own View.

Our own view of the situation is that if the division in the Cabinet were a real one, the result would inevitably lead to the resignation of the Suffragist or of the Anti-Suffragist group, and possibly to the break up of the Government. But it must be remembered that the present situation was not in any sense forced upon the Government either by any political party, or by any combination of circumstances. The situation was deliberately made by Mr. Asquith and Mr. Lloyd George, with the consent of the Cabinet as a whole. The announcement of the Government's Manhood Suffrage Bill was universally described as "A Bolt from the Blue." There was no agitation in the country in support of it, there was no popular demand, nor was the question before the country in any shape or form. So far as we know, one justification of it, and only one, has been attempted by its promoters, and that was proclaimed by Mr. Lloyd George, at Bath, when he said that it had successfully "torpedoed" the Conciliation Bill. We have had occasion before now to speak of Mr. Lloyd George as a "wrecker." But we do not believe that he would go out of his way to encompass the destruction of his own ship, nor do we conceive it as a possibility that the Prime Minister, who is characterised by supple dexterity, and the clever and astute Chancellor of the Exchequer would put their heads together with a deliberate plan of guiding their craft upon the rocks of Cabinet division. In our opinion their purpose was and is to lure the Votes for Women crew upon those rocks and encompass their political destruction.

Come and Play Soldiers!

To change the metaphor and put the case in other words. The ostensible conflict now being openly waged between the two sections of the Cabinet is nothing but a sham fight. It is a holiday diversion. It is not real business except in the sense that it is intended to entrap Suffragists into the delusion that they may put their cause into the hands of these professing champions and leave it there, patiently awaiting the issue of the combat. "Come and play soldiers," says Mr. Lloyd George to his colleagues, and Mr. Harcourt and others respond to the invitation with alacrity, while Mr. Asquith smilingly backs the winner. But when playtime is over, the game of soldiers will come to an end. And these same gentlemen will remember that they are ostensibly paid their five thousand a year, as the *Standard* points out, not to perform on platforms, but to carry on the King's Government jointly and in unison. And on the day when they get back to business Suffragist and Anti-Suffragist Ministers will call to remembrance the words of Sir Edward Grey, addressed to the Women Liberals, that, however divided they may be in their opinions on the Suffrage question, they are all absolutely united in loyalty to the (Anti-Suffragist) Prime Minister.

No Manhood Suffrage Bill for Us.

But though we refuse to place any reliance upon good intentions or vague promises, we are by no means pessimistic with regard to the success of our vigorous agitation during the coming session. The real forces of the Suffragist Movement are consolidated for a great campaign throughout the country, directed against the Government and their Manhood Suffrage Bill. It is nothing but the hope of stopping our agitation that has arrayed the Members of the Cabinet against one another in a platform battle over Votes for Women. That result in itself is a signal achievement and a veritable triumph. It is an encouragement to go on, until the sham fight is turned into a real fight, and is pressed to a decisive victory for the Woman's Cause. Our agitation will cease when the Manhood Suffrage Bill is withdrawn and in its place is substituted a Bill to give equal franchise rights to men and women. The pressure of public feeling and the organisation of militancy on a large scale will force the Government to realise that they must deal with the question of women's enfranchisement, and not merely play with it, if they wish to avoid disaster and continue in office. Neither a split in the Cabinet nor a fall of the present Ministry has any terrors for Women Suffragists. It simply means that the peril of Manhood Suffrage and its frightful tyranny will be averted, while the way will be left open to press for equal franchise rights for men and women from any Government that may succeed to power.

The Referendum.

We note that the London Correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian* says he hears that "before the visit of the Suffragist deputations to the Prime Minister, the question of a Referendum on the matter was discussed in the Cabinet and negatived." He adds: "Mr. Asquith, therefore, on that occasion expressed the views of the Cabinet as a whole."

"Prison Privileges."

On page 240 of this issue will be found an extract from a letter to the *Nation* by Miss Evelyn Sharp. It is quite evident that present prison regulations are not dictated by any considerations of justice or equity. The two men, Mr. Macdougall and Mr. Ball, who are in prison for the Suffrage cause have been refused "privileges." One of these men was convicted on precisely the same kind of evidence as the women now in Holloway. The differentiation is apparently determined merely by the respective strength of the two organisations—the W.S.P.U. and the M.P.U.—which these prisoners represent. The absurdity of the Home Secretary's attitude consists in this, that while on the one hand he relieves the women from prison tasks, on the other he refuses them the usual remission of sentence because they avail themselves of his "privileges." Suffragists have learnt long before now that to fight all along the line is the only way to win. Fresh evidence of this truth is provided by the news of a recent very effective strike, including the hunger protest, adopted by the Suffragettes in Holloway on behalf of Mrs. Roy Rothwell, who was denied the attendance of a much-needed dentist.

Indian Women Doctors.

We draw our readers' special attention to a letter which appeared in the *Times* last week, part of which we give on page 239. The letter shows how absolutely necessary it is for women to have a voice in Imperial politics. The grievous state of Indian women during sickness makes a special appeal to all women, and strengthens them in their conviction of the need of political enfranchisement, so that they may take their share in these urgent matters of Imperial importance. Where there is a large population of women, practically ignored, as in India, by the State, the need for the women's point of view becomes all the more insistent.

A REVOLT OF LABOURERS' WIVES.

By F. E. Green, Author of "A Few Acres and a Cottage."

That the wives of English labourers, compared with the women of France, have not always shown that meekness which is supposed to be their special heritage is brought vividly home to us in a remarkable page of English history recorded by J. L. Hammond, and Barbara Hammond.* We know the courageous part the women of France played in 1789. We know how the English labourers of this period of revolutionary ardour barely struck a single blow against the lords of the soil who had succeeded in crushing their lives to a point which made of our "bold peasantry" a ragged army of lean paupers. The Enclosure Acts had robbed the village labourers of their land. The housewife could no longer get milk for her children because there was no land on which to keep the cow. "The produce," as Cobbett said in his blunt way, "was carried away to be devoured by the idlers, the thieves, the prostitutes, who are all tax-eaters in the wens of Bath and London." During this time, when wages were reduced and prices were rising, and rising rapidly, both farmers and landlords were reaping a harvest out of the misery of the poor. The Law of Settlement barred the labourer from seeking better conditions; the Combination Law erected an ugly fence against collective bargaining for higher wages; and the brutal Game Laws, aided by legalised man-traps, killed or transported for life the starving peasant, or his wife, or his child, for seeking food or fuel in the wood or the hedgerow. To the parish cart, that worst infamy of all in this age of chivalry, were harnessed men and women who were made to play the part of beasts of burden.

But in 1795, when exceptional scarcity sharpened the edge of misery it was the women and not the men who broke out into open revolt. A series of food riots occurred spontaneously all over England. Men later on burnt ricks and broke up machines; but the women did something far more sensible. They did not lose their heads. They did not rob. They firmly and quietly commandeered all the food within reach of their organised bands. At Aylesbury, for instance, a large number of women "seized on all the wheat that came to market and compelled the farmers to whom it belonged to accept of such prices as they thought proper to name" (*Reading Mercury*). At Carlisle, a band of women entered houses and shops seizing all the grain they could, deposited it in the public hall, and formed a committee to regulate the prices, handing back to the owners the sums realised. At Fordingbridge a certain spirited Sarah Rogers started, by seizure, a cheap butter campaign, for which she was afterwards sentenced to three months' imprisonment at Winchester assizes. She was evidently quite a girl, or the court would have passed a much more severe sentence. At Bath, women boarded a vessel laden with wheat and flour and prevented the exportation of food they needed so badly. As the Riot Act was read, they sang "God save the King," and although the soldiers were called out, the corn was relanded and warehoused.

The rich became alarmed. Fear and pity drove them to start a diet campaign. Like the rich of to-day, some averred that the housewives of the poor were thriftless and did not know how to make the most of bones and offal!

Fox was one of the few in the House of Commons who saw the bitter irony of it all, and when it was proposed that the poor should adopt a diet of rye bread and oatmeal, remarked that it was all very well for gentlemen of the House to protest against the extravagance of the poor in demanding wheaten bread, for bread of any kind played so small a part in the daily diet of his fellow-members. Later on, in the labourers' revolt of 1830, it was the women who made themselves responsible for dragging the overseer of the parish in the hated parish cart and taking him to a safe distance, where he was appropriately deposited on to a manure heap. And when the riots of 1830 were quelled by the ruthless barbarity of the magistracy, backed up by Melbourne, who was Home Secretary, when men and even boys were hung or transported for life for trivial offences (for not a life was taken in the riots save that of an occasional peasant who of course did not count), it was the women, when their husbands, sons and brothers, were torn from them to be sent across the sea or to dangle at the end of a hangman's rope, who had to endure alone the dark days and the darker nights that followed. These women verily felt the keen, heroic edge of life.

And to-day, after nearly a century of civilisation and a quickened sense of chivalry, what have we? Well, the life of the labourer's wife is simply a life of servitude.

How many times does one inquire in a country village what has become of some spirited girl, now rarely seen in the village street, to learn that she has married a labourer, "and so, of course, cannot leave her home." We have known of a healthy woman of seventy years who had lived every day of them within the confines of a small common. Muddy roads, the lack of public conveyances, indifferent shoe leather, eternal washing, and the duties of maternity keep the young wife incarcerated. She may have led the village dance before she entered in the bloom of womanhood the cottage door that closes behind her as securely as the door of a Moorish harem. She is now a labourer's wife.

* "The Village Labourer, 1760-1832; a study in the Government of England before the Reform Bill." (Longmans, Green and Co.). 6s. net.

A MESSAGE FROM MRS. ELMY.

The veteran suffragist, Mrs. Wolstenholme Elmy, writes:—

"I rejoice to see the attitude taken by the W.S.P.U. with regard to Mr. Asquith's Manhood Suffrage Bill. *Equal Franchise rights for men* and women, must be our demand *now*, as it has been from the *very first*, as I very well remember. If manhood is to be the qualification for men, womanhood must be the qualification for women, and full Adult Suffrage must take the place of any limited franchise. The position is now quite clear, we have pleaded long enough, we now demand our most just, and long overdue, rights."

TWO TYPES OF WOMEN.

Those who know the work of the Elizabethan Stage Society were prepared as a matter of course for an intellectual treat when it was announced that the Society, under the direction of Mr. William Poel, would give performances of "Jacob and Esau" and "Alcestis" at the Little Theatre. And they were not disappointed. The extreme simplicity of setting and lighting of both plays, the archaic atmosphere of the first, and the exquisite pictures of the second, are things that will linger long in the memory. To us, it need hardly be said, the chief interest lay in the types of womanhood. First there was Rebecca, in the quaint play first printed in 1568. As the still young-looking wife of old blind Isaac, Rebecca, played by Miss Ernita Lascelles, is the type of woman who in all ages excels in what is politely called diplomacy. She knows just what she wants, and she attains her object, by some means—foul ones if necessary. Jacob is a weak tool in her hands—a tool, by the way, of a quite deliciously hypocritical type, as played by Mr. Campbell Cargill. Rebecca's methods (first entreaties, tears, and self-abasement, then trickery) are familiar to us all; we feel that in these days she would be on the side of those who profess to believe that all ends can be attained by "indirect influence." In Alcestis we have a different type; unkind critics call her the "doormat woman." At any rate, she is the type that makes selfish men. One does not feel that Admetus, beautifully played by Mr. Frederic Sargent, deserves the good turn done by Herakles in bringing back Alcestis from the tomb! And one feels quite chivalrously disposed towards the poor old father, so unmercifully rated by Admetus because he, with his scanty white locks and his spent years, still clings to life and the light of the sun. *Someone* must die that Admetus may live, and it is his wife, Alcestis (Miss Lucy Wilson), who makes the supreme sacrifice. And Admetus accepts it without protest, as his due. Fain would he have kept both, life and wife, but as Death says lightly to Apollo in the opening lines, "You can't have all you want, you know." So Admetus lives, and Alcestis enters the Valley of the Shades. Was Euripides laughing at the "mere man"? G. V.

DR. SOPHIA JEX-BLAKE.

The world is the poorer by the death of Dr. Sophia Jex-Blake, after a long and distinguished career. Dr. Jex-Blake, whose fame is world-wide as the founder of two great medical schools for women—the London School of Medicine for Women and the Edinburgh School of Medicine for Women—retired from practice in 1899. Her longest and bitterest fight was with the University of Edinburgh; and, later, when Parliament had recognised the right of women to be doctors, it was in that city that she practised for twenty-one years. Since the death of Florence Nightingale, the *Pall Mall Gazette* says in a sympathetic note on Dr. Jex-Blake as a "Happy Warrior," no woman has died of whom more truly may it be written, *Bene actæ vitæ recordatio jucundissima est.*"

THE NATIONAL W.S.P.U. BECOMES IMPERIAL.

Mrs. Pankhurst writes to Mrs. Pethick Lawrence:—"You will be interested to learn that the National Executive Committee of the W.S.P.U. has now the right to call itself the Committee of the National and Imperial W.S.P.U. Before I left Victoria the first local Union in Canada was formed by a number of English girls and women, including your sister-in-law, Mrs. Pethick. The secretary and moving spirit is Miss Dodwell, who has come here from her home in Watford to be secretary of the Women's Club. They wish to be placed on the footing of all other local unions, and to report periodically to VOTES FOR WOMEN, just like any other local committee. They mean to raise funds to employ an organiser, who will become a missionary in other towns in British Columbia, and they hope to form a nucleus of a vigorous movement here on W.S.P.U. lines."

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Woven Knickers (*as sketch*), in fine Wool, finished with kneebands. In black, white, and a large range of colours.
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Child's Frock (*as sketch*), in fine nainsook, hand embroidered, and finished Valenciennes lace.
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Milanese Silk Vest (*as sketch*), fine quality, beautifully embroidered.
Sale Price 10/6

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VIEWS ON THE POLITICAL SITUATION.

MR. G. A. TOUCHE.

Writing in the *Standard* (Woman's Platform) on January 4 on "Women and the State," Mr. George A. Touche, M.P., says:—

"I voted for the second reading of the Conciliation Bill on May 5 last because I regard the grant of Woman Suffrage as a measure of justice long overdue. In my opinion the refusal of the Parliamentary franchise to properly qualified women is unjust, injurious, and unconstitutional.

"(1) It is unjust to treat woman as something less than a citizen because of her sex. A citizen has a right to a voice in the Government under which he lives. If he does not possess a vote the way is open to him to obtain it. But the way is barred to every woman, irrespective of qualification and capacity. She is wholly unrepresented. She is regarded as having no title to exercise the elementary right of citizenship. It is a humiliating position.

* * * * *

"(2) It is injurious to the nation, as well as a wrong to woman, to exclude her from the rights of citizenship. This is not a man's world only. He is not the sole heir to it. The questions to be dealt with by the legislator concern women as much as men. They cannot be solved by men alone, even if men always made equal laws for men and women.

"Difficult enough are the social problems which lie before the State. Woman suffrage will not solve them. It is not advocated as a quick cure for all social evils. But it will help. It will bring the co-operation in which strength and understanding lie. It is a loss to the nation that the assistance which women can give in fullest measure through the suffrage should be excluded. It will be a gain to the nation when women have a distinct political status, and a wider field of thought and responsibility. There was much point in the remark of the American who said: 'You cannot raise a nobler race when the mother is a door-mat wife.'

"(3) It is unconstitutional to exclude women from the rights of citizenship. They help to support the nation. They are entitled to a voice in its affairs. It is the basic principle of representative government that laws should only be made with the consent of the governed. At the present time one-half of the adult nation are required to obey laws in the making of which they have no voice whatever. Where women are concerned the old Whig doctrine that representation should accompany taxation, passionately preached by Liberals of a type now rare, is openly flouted. A Radical Government even taxes women to pay salaries to Members of Parliament in whose election they have no voice.

"If it were attempted to place men under the political disabilities from which women suffer there would be open rebellion and civil war. Extreme violence marked the struggle of men for the vote. Who will now say it was not justified? **A party on the war-path, even if small in numbers, can generally get more from a Government than a multitude, however deserving, trusting solely to the merits of their cause.** Two generations of peaceful advocacy did little to advance the woman's cause. The wonder is that with this experience they have been so self-restrained. It is the more remarkable in view of the intensity of purpose behind the demand. To many women the fight for the vote has all the attributes of a religious duty. They are striving, not with any selfish aims, but for the sake of their toiling sisters. The honour of Parliament requires that the question should be settled. . . . The right has been acknowledged. The question now is whether the House of Commons will be true to its own declaration, and give effect to a reform the need of which it has emphatically recognised."

LORD ROBERT CECIL.

Lord Robert Cecil, M.P., has written to Miss Theilmann, of Hull, a letter, in which he says:—

"I am very sorry indeed that I should have been prevented from attending the meeting to-morrow on many grounds, and particularly because I think that the cause of Woman Suffrage has reached a very critical position. At the end of last summer I thought our success this year was practically assured. I felt confident that the Conciliation Bill would pass. We were secure of a majority on the second reading, and once that had been obtained a week of Parliamentary time seemed ample to make such progress with the remaining stages of the Bill as would make its passage through the House of Commons certain. Whether the House of Lords would have immediately accepted the Bill I know not. But I cannot believe that that Chamber would have in any case long resisted so thoroughly moderate and reasonable a reform as that proposed by the Bill. Once the Bill had been placed on the Statute Book, no further extension of the franchise in any direction could have taken place without a proportionate increase in the suffrage of women.

"All this fair prospect has been somewhat overclouded by the action of the Government. They have suddenly announced their intention to proceed with a considerable, though so far undefined, remodelling of our whole franchise law. No popular demand for such a change is pretended to exist. Indeed, almost the only public defence by Ministers for the proposal, so far, has been that by this means they have 'torpedoed' the Conciliation Bill. It is much to be hoped that Mr. Lloyd George, in making use of this language, was not quite serious, for I still think that in the passage of the Conciliation Bill lies the chief hope for the early enactment of Woman Suffrage.

"What is the alternative? A Government Bill is to be introduced for which the whole Cabinet, including the Prime Minister, Mr. Harcourt, and other resolute anti-Suffragists, are to be responsible. Into this Bill the House of Commons are to be invited to insert an amendment extending the franchise to women in some shape or other. If the Bill is to make a large and perhaps final extension of the franchise to men, as is generally assumed, it may well be thought that a grant of the vote to a single million women on Conciliation Bill lines would be very inadequate. It is accordingly proposed that all women married to householders, as well as all who are themselves householders, shall be enfranchised. This, it is calculated, will make some six million new voters, which, with the newly enfranchised men, will increase the present electorate from some 7½ to some 17 or 18 millions. Compared to such a change, the alterations made by all previous Reform Bills have been the merest child's play. Yet they have usually required prolonged struggles to obtain their enactment, even with the energetic support of an undivided Cabinet. What chance, then, will this measure have of becoming law with the Prime Minister and some of his principal colleagues so much opposed to one of its chief provisions as to regard its enactment as a national disaster? I confess it does not seem to me a very good one. Such a Bill must inevitably be rejected by the House of Lords. Will the present tottering Government have authority to override the opposition of the Second Chamber, supported, as all will know, by the profound convictions of the Prime Minister? Any attempt to do so would be to reduce the provisions of the Parliament Act to the merest farce. Nor for other reasons is it by any means certain that the life of the Government will be long enough to enable it to fulfil the conditions imposed by that measure.

"What, then, ought those to do who are really concerned to obtain votes for women? It seems to me that they ought to devote their whole energies to secure the passage through the House of Commons of the Conciliation Bill. The promise of a second reading for that Bill and a week's time for its subsequent stages still holds good. With good will much can be made of those facilities. Nor will its passage in any way hinder the alternative plan. If the latter succeeds it will necessarily supersede the Conciliation Bill. If it fails, and the Conciliation Bill passes, even those who wished for more will have got something. Moreover, there are many who, if they could be sure that the Conciliation Bill would pass, would be ready to go a very long way to meet those who desire to proceed by way of amendment to the Government Bill."

MR. PHILIP SNOWDEN, M.P.

Speaking at a meeting at Croydon on Monday, Mr. Philip Snowden, M.P., said he would never be a party to the extension of the male franchise to indifferent men while they ignored the enfranchisement of women. He did not think there was any demand for increasing the male suffrage, but women for several years had been claiming rights to which he considered they were justly entitled, and which he intended to support. It was most undemocratic on the part of Liberals to oppose the claims of women.

LABOUR AND WOMAN SUFFRAGE.

We understand that preparations are being pushed forward for the great Albert Hall demonstration on February 13, to demand Adult Suffrage, and that tickets should be immediately obtained from one or other of the societies convening the meeting. These are the Labour Party, the Independent Labour Party, and the Fabian Society. The meeting will begin at 8 p.m. A full list of the speakers and details as to admission will be found on page 237.

A number of branches of the Huddersfield and District Association Trades and Labour Council have combined to submit the following resolution at the Twelfth Annual Conference of the Labour Party at Birmingham, on January 24:—

"That this Conference is of opinion that the enfranchisement of all adult men and women should be included in the next electoral Reform Bill, and that the Party should lose no opportunity of pressing this upon the Government."

The Independent Labour Party will seek to substitute:—

"That in view of the Prime Minister's declaration, this Conference calls upon the Government to introduce not a Manhood Suffrage Bill, but a genuine measure of Adult Suffrage, establishing complete political democracy, including the political equality of the sexes, and urging that the granting of more votes to men should not be supported unless the claims of women, whose agitation has forced the whole question to the front, are at the same time recognised."

SOME PRESS VIEWS.

THE LABOUR LEADER.

Writing on the suggestion of a Referendum on Woman Suffrage, the *Labour Leader* for January 5, says:—

"The *Westminster Gazette* is supposed to be the inspired organ of official Liberal opinion. It would therefore be interesting to know whether any high political personage is behind their naïve suggestion of a Referendum on the question of Women's Suffrage. The suggestion will be taken up eagerly by all who hope for an adverse vote. But why this sudden Liberal conversion to the Referendum? We had always imagined that the Referendum in Liberal eyes was impracticable and opposed to the principle of representative government. That, it would appear, is still the opinion, but the *Westminster Gazette* is willing to make an exception in this case. Nothing could be more unfair. If the Referendum principle is sound it ought to apply to all big questions; if it is unsound it ought to apply to none. The anti-suffragists must be in sore straits.

EVENING TELEGRAPH AND POST (DUNDEE).

The question of Woman Suffrage at the moment occupies a position in the forefront of political problems.

What an extraordinary commentary is even the bare possibility of such a position upon the levity in which the Cabinet chooses to undertake the responsibilities of government.

—*Evening Standard* (*Special*).

One finds the Suffragettes overjoyed at the prospect of a platform battle between members of the Cabinet over the female franchise question. These vigilant ladies seem to see farther into the results of the extraordinary Ministerial performances that are impending than do Ministers themselves. Strange as it may appear to the ordinary mind, the leading members of the Cabinet are under the delusion that they can oppose each other in great meetings on a great public question without the mischief going further. But the Suffragettes know better. They are positively laughing at the prospect.

—*Western Mail* (*London Letter*).

TWO "PUNCH" CARTOONS.

In *Punch* last week a cartoon appeared as one of a series, "Winter Sports for Politicians," representing Mr. Lloyd George, Lord Haldane, and Sir Edward Grey trying a little run with the "Shes—who must be obeyed," while Mr. Asquith munches "anti" sandwiches on the bank. This week *Punch* has a full-page cartoon showing Mr. Lloyd George and Mr. Harcourt, back to back on the same platform, the one declaiming for Votes for Women and the other against.

MISS DAVISON'S CASE.

No Women Admitted to the Court.

Miss Emily Wilding Davison, B.A., who was charged at Bow Street Police Court on December 15 with putting a lighted paper into a pillar box, and committed for trial at the Old Bailey, surrendered to her bail on Tuesday last. The Grand Jury found a true bill against her. She was then arraigned before the Recorder and Sir Horatio Davis. The charge was read out to her. She pleaded not guilty and asked that a day should be fixed for her trial. It was decided to take it the following day. She was then allowed out on her own recognisances of £500.

On Wednesday morning women friends who accompanied Miss Davison to the Court, including the shorthand reporter sent by VOTES FOR WOMEN, were refused admission. They were officially informed that "no females were to be admitted." As a protest against this Mrs. Chapin attempted to break a window, and was arrested and taken to Snow Hill. She was due to appear at the Guildhall on Thursday morning.

The women who were kept out of the Court tell us that they saw, among those waiting for admission, a little girl of about fifteen, who was concerned in a case of criminal assault. That a child in such a case should be forced to go through the ordeal of appearing in a Court filled with men only is most tragic.

Every effort was made by Mr. Penn Gaskell, through the Under Sheriff, for the women to be admitted, but the only woman allowed into the court was Mrs. Penn Gaskell, who was called as a witness by Miss Davison.

Miss Davison was indicted for "attempting to place against a Post Office letter-box a match and other dangerous substances," and further with placing such substances in a letter-box. After the jury had been sworn Miss Davison said, "I here protest at my friends being excluded from the court."

Mr. Boulton, who represented the Postmaster-General, said that this was a case which arose out of the agitation for Women's Suffrage, but all the jury had to do was to try the facts. It was alleged that the accused had attempted to set fire to letter-boxes in Westminster and the City, and the Postmaster-General regarded the case as so serious that he had determined to prosecute. He then went over the evidence given at Bow Street and reported in VOTES FOR WOMEN for December 22 and 29.

Detective-inspector Powell, giving evidence in support of counsel's statement, said the packets found on Miss Davison consisted of pieces of calico saturated in kerosene and wrapped up in brown paper.

In the course of the cross-examination of Inspector Powell, in answer to a question from Miss Davison, he said that he had known her well for some considerable time, and that apart from the Suffrage agitation he had every reason to believe her a good and honourable woman.

Miss Davison defended herself. In addressing the jury she dwelt at some length on the historical aspect of the matter, and showed the inevitableness of violence when political freedom is refused or delayed. In a most eloquent peroration she assured the jury that it was not she, but they and the judge and other men who had failed to do their part in compelling the Government to introduce this reform who ought to be in the dock; it was they who were really responsible for the actions which she and other women committed. She claimed to be accorded first-class treatment as a political offender.

The judge stated that that would be a matter for the Home Office, and said his duty was to inflict upon her what he thought an adequate sentence, namely, six months without hard labour on each count of the indictment, the sentences to run concurrently.

CARMARTHEN BY-ELECTION.

CANDIDATES.

Mr. Llewelyn Williams (Lib.)
Mr. Frank George Vivian (Lab.)
Mr. H. C. Bond (C.)

Result in Dec., 1910:—W. L. Williams (L.), unopposed.

Owing to the appointment of Mr. Llewelyn Williams as Recorder of Swansea a by-election is necessitated in Carmarthen. Miss Barrett, the W.S.P.U. organiser in Wales, is already in the constituency, and we appeal to members at present on holidays to join her and give all the help they can. It is above all things important at the present time that we should conduct a strenuous campaign against the Government, and direct all our energies against the terrible menace of Manhood Suffrage which is overshadowing the women of the country. Let every available worker flock to Carmarthen and rouse the electors with the war cry, "Equal franchise rights of women and men." All communications should be addressed to Miss Christabel Pankhurst, 4, Clements Inn, W.C.

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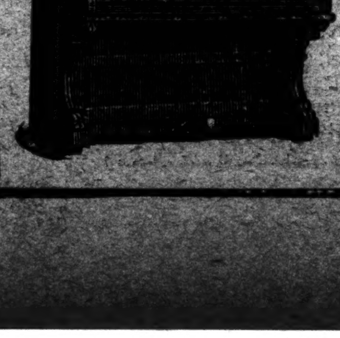

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1912.

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J. KEIR HARDIE, M.P.
ARTHUR HENDERSON, M.P.
PHILIP SNOWDEN, M.P.
Miss MARGARET BONDFIELD,
Miss MARY R. MACARTHUR,
Miss MILLICENT MURBY,
WM. C. ANDERSON, Chairman of the Independent Labour Party.

Doors open at 7 p.m. Chair to be taken at 8 p.m. prompt by

J. RAMSAY MacDONALD, M.P.
(Chairman of the Parliamentary Labour Party).

SUPPORTED BY—

George N. Barnes, M.P. — T. Richardson, M.P.
William Brace, M.P. — Albert Smith, M.P.
J. R. Clynes, M.P. — J. E. Sutton, M.P.
Charles Duncan, M.P. — John W. Taylor, M.P.
F. W. Goldstone, M.P. — J. H. Thomas, M.P.
John Hodge, M.P. — Stephen Walsh, M.P.
Walter Hudson, M.P. — Geo. F. Wardle, M.P.
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J. Parker, M.P. — W. Tyson Wilson, M.P.
J. Pointer, M.P. — and others.

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THE WORLD WE LIVE IN.

The Italian Parliament, which is shortly to discuss the question of Universal Franchise, has decided not to add to it the question of Woman Suffrage, but to discuss that later. This decision has aroused the Suffragists, and it is probable the movement in that country will receive a great impetus.

* * * * *

With a view to finding out what prison life was really like, the Governor of Tennessee recently sentenced himself to two days' imprisonment. After twenty-four hours, however, he released himself, stating frankly that he could not stand the life for another day.

* * * * *

In an article on Wendell-Phillips, the *New York Evening Post* says:—"We would recall that the great orator who was born one hundred years ago never let any disturbance of peace deter him from thus advocating the enfranchisement of women: 'It is, therefore, on the ground of natural justice, and on the ground again of highest expediency, and yet again it is because woman, as an immortal and intellectual being, has a right to all the means of education—it is on these grounds that we claim for her the civil rights and privileges which man enjoys.'"

* * * * *

Substantial encouragement to women's medical education in India, we learn from the *Standard* (Woman's Platform), has been offered by the Government of India's representatives at Madras in the shape of three scholarships for women desirous of matriculating for the degrees of M.B. and C.M. The new stipends will be allotted each year by the provincial committee of the Countess of Dufferin fund, and will admit successful women applicants to full medical tuition at the University of Madras.

* * * * *

An interesting article in the *Leeds Mercury* gives some information as to the strength of the Woman Suffrage movement in Russia. Prominent among its supporters are the Grand Duchess Elizabeth and Sister Veronica, abbess of a convent with 600 nuns. Prof. Bieliebubski, Privy Councillor and Head of the Imperial Technical College, also believes in full rights for women, and he has trained 20 women engineers, who are employed on the State railways supervising large gangs of workmen.

* * * * *

An interesting question has been raised in New Jersey, U.S.A., by Miss Philbrook, the first woman lawyer in the State. In the course of her studies she found that women had the right to vote under the original constitution of 1776; and she prevailed upon a woman property owner to try a test case. The election board refused the woman's vote and the case is now being carried to the Supreme Court.

* * * * *

The *Western Daily News* recently arranged a competition on the question of Adult Suffrage, and announces that:—This competition showed a considerable majority in favour of Adult Suffrage, and local followers of Mrs. Pankhurst will be gratified to know that quite two-thirds of this majority stipulated that "Votes for Women" should form an integral part of Mr. Asquith's promised Bill.

* * * * *

The question of homes for women engaged in various professions has long been a problem, but one excellent attempt at a solution has been made by Miss Lena Ashwell in the foundation of the "Three Arts Club," a residential home in the Marylebone Road for women engaged in music, painting and writing.

* * * * *

The *Conservative and Unionist Women's Franchise Review* for the current quarter has just been issued. Lord Lytton contributes an interesting article on Votes for Women in 1912; and the political outlook for women in other countries is dealt with under "Suffrage in Foreign Lands" and "Under the Flag." Other interesting articles dealing with "Professional Women and the Vote," "The National Insurance Bill," and "Woman's Supremacy in her own Sphere," are also included, while the increasing list of Vice-Presidents argues well for the prosperity of the question amongst Conservatives.

* * * * *

The women of New Hampshire, after many years of hard work, have at last succeeded in getting a bill passed making mothers equal guardians of their minor children with the fathers.

* * * * *

The women of Washington State, having gained their own rights, are now, we are glad to see, organising to help the women of other States in their battle for the suffrage.

* * * * *

The Municipal Council of Belize, capital of Honduras, has granted the municipal vote to women.

* * * * *

Two policewomen are to be appointed in Indianapolis.

* * * * *

A well-known suffragist, Miss Sarah Decker, is standing as candidate for the Senate in Colorado.

* * * * *

There are now over 30 ladies practising law in Paris.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

"The Breath of the Desert." By H. Clayton East. London: Duckworth and Co. Price 6s. net.

"Life, Love and Light." London: Macmillan and Co. Price 3s. 6d. net.

"Women's Employment." London Central Bureau for Women's Employment. Price 1d.

"Eighteen Hundred and Eleven." By Anna Laetitia Barbould. Warrington Sunrise Publishing Co. Price 6d.

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VOTES FOR WOMEN

4, CLEMENTS INN, STRAND.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 12, 1912.

WOMEN AND WAR.

The very significant leading article in the *Pall Mall Gazette* last Friday, dealing with the present position of the Prime Minister and his Cabinet with regard to Woman Suffrage, marks an entire change in the tone and attitude of that paper towards the agitation for women's political enfranchisement. Partisanship, founded upon blind ignorance and prejudice, has hitherto dictated the editorial comments of the *Pall Mall Gazette* upon this subject. The spirit of unreasoning hostility has yielded to the spirit of discrimination and balanced judgment. None welcome more cordially than do Suffragists themselves the application to the aims and methods and the meaning of the woman's movement of the searchlight of moral, historical and political criticism.

In the mind of the writer of that article there seems to remain one grave objection to giving women the vote. We are living to-day in a world, he says, that is "liable at any moment to be convulsed by wars that can only be waged and won by men." That is perhaps the oldest of all reasons urged against the claims of women to full recognition as citizens, and even to-day is the chief weapon in the armoury of the Anti-Suffragists.

Four centuries before the birth of Christ the Greek dramatist Euripides put this primitive argument into the mouth of a woman, together with the woman's age-old rejoinder. Says Medea to the women of Corinth:—

> And then, forsooth, 'tis they that face the call
> Of war, while we sit sheltered, hid from all
> Peril. False mocking! Sooner would I stand
> Three times to face those battles, shield in hand,
> Than bear one child.

We say emphatically that there is no toll of hardship, suffering, pain, and death paid by men to the State upon the Nation's battlefields, the full equivalent of which is not paid in the same kind by women on the battlefield where human lives are won and added to the wealth and resources of the Empire. Service for service, sacrifice for sacrifice, the manhood and the womanhood of the nation stand quits, and both deserve equally of their country the status of actual or potential citizenship.

Moreover, women bear their full share of the weight of war. As tax-payers, as wage-earners, as wives, that is as unwaged domestic labourers and producers they pay as much in taxes, in material loss and in additional labour as the male section of the community.

Again, it must be remembered that it is the spirit of heroic self-sacrifice and of resolution, it is the passion for endurance in its women that has in all ages again and again largely influenced the fortunes and the fate of a race that goes to war. And nowhere has this spirit been better exemplified than in the women of the British nation. "What soldiers these Englishwomen make," said the Sultan of Morocco's Minister of War during the troubles in Morocco.

During the recent Boer war, it was mainly the spirit of determination and endurance displayed by the Boer women that kept the forces of the enemy in the field during year after year of desperate and protracted fighting. The toll of privation, disease and death they paid even more heavily than the men in the concentration camps and even in many cases in the trenches, and they recked nothing of the price if by its means the independence of their nation could have been secured.

To say that women cannot fight is to betray an ignorance of history. From the legends of the Trojan war, the traditions of Egypt and Persia, the history of Cæsar's campaigns in Gaul and Britain, the Punic and other Roman wars in Europe, Asia, and Africa, from the incessant wars that ravaged the European Continent through the Middle Ages, from the French and American Revolutions and the North-American Civil War down to modern times, there is abundant evidence of the martial deeds of women, inspired by patriotism, hatred of tyranny, or from need to protect city or home or friends from danger and destruction.

The military genius of Joan of Arc has become a world-story, but it is too often forgotten that it was the Consort of our English King Henry VI. who again and again repaired losses occasioned by the King's imbecility. She it was who recalled victory to his standard, fighting twelve battles in person with great genius and courage. The wife of King Henry II. spent half her life in battle, and at eighty years of age defended the possessions of King John in Normandy against the French King, and conducted in person the defence of the besieged towns, clad in man's armour. The history of these islands abounds in records of the martial achievements of women, and it ill becomes the sons and daughters of Britain to forget them.

But whereas it is not true to say that women cannot fight, it remains true that women in modern times do not occupy a place in the nation's fighting line. And why? The reason is not that they cannot fight, or that they do not want to fight. The reason is that the community which is governed by a very complex system of civilisation does not want them to fight. The community *in its own interest* debars women from the fighting line just as it now debars kings and statesmen and other members and classes of the human commonwealth, and for the same reason. The collective sense of the community has decided that these persons and these classes can serve it better elsewhere.

Nevertheless, even in modern days, the service of women is indispensable in the time of war. We are told that Florence Nightingale did more for the well-being of the British Army than any one man that could be named, and that was because she realised better even than the War Office of her own day that the conditions of warfare have undergone a profound change during modern times. She discovered that the efficiency and strength of an army depends enormously to-day upon its rear. As with our fire-arms (as Mr. Laurence Housman* has pointed out) so with our armies—*the loading point has been put farther and farther back.* And women as well as men are the loaders of our modern Army machine, and women even more than men are the cleansers of it when it becomes fouled through fighting.

The military organisation developed by modern conditions demands an ever increasing proportion of non-combatants to combatants, for at the back of every combatant we have a whole line of workers, through whose exertions alone he is able to take the field. "Our military organisation, in fact, has developed just as our civil organisation has done, and depends not on mere physical force, but on an economic combination which draws upon the whole community for its supplies."

The co-operation of women in a thousand ways is necessary to the efficiency of any modern army on the physical, the material, the moral and the spiritual plane, and for that reason alone, if for no other, they might base their claim to the right to be represented in the Councils of the State.

Emmeline Pethick Lawrence.

* "Physical Force." By Laurence Housman. On sale at the Women's Press, 3d. per 100, 5s. per 1,000, post free.

WOMAN SUFFRAGE IN NEW ZEALAND.

By Lady Stout (wife of the Chief Justice of the Country).

The following statements have been made by "Anti-Suffragists" without evidence or proof of their accuracy. I shall try to prove that they are false by quoting reliable statistics and admissions made by men who are opposed to the suffrage for reasons which it is unnecessary to summarise.

1.—*Women do not want the vote.*

The same statement was made in New Zealand and disproved at the first election in which women took part as electors. There were five petitions presented to Parliament at various times, containing in all 31,872 signatures, but 109,461, or 78.48 per cent., of adult women registered and 85.18 per cent. of these voted. There were three electorates in which there was no contest.

2.—*Women do not use the vote.*

Several writers have stated that, "contrary to expectation," women *do* use the vote in the ratio of 78 to 80 of the men's vote. A writer in the *Standard* quoted the reduced percentage of 78.26 at the last election without stating that the men's vote had also decreased 2 per cent. The most convincing proof that women are more willing to vote than formerly is that 99.76 of the adult women registered in 1908 compared with 78.48 in 1903. The percentage of men who registered was only 99.54. Many women were unable to record their votes, but if it was understood that women have often to drive or ride for long distances over rough country roads, and have to take their children to the poll with them, the British voter would be more than astonished at their zeal. All women, married and single, have a vote, yet we find that the Englishman, who does not have to take his family to the poll or undergo any discomforts in recording his vote, shows less willingness to vote than the women of New Zealand.

3.—*The Government is purely parochial, and has no real similarity to an Imperial Government.*

We find the British House of Commons dealing with very domestic matters such as drainage, water supply, meals for children, education of infants, boot factories, shops, flannelette nightdresses for babies, overlaying of infants, maternity allowances, and a hundred and one small parochial matters. In New Zealand we have made greater strides than Britain in Imperialism. We have adopted Compulsory Military Training. Proposals for Imperial Federation, representation of the Dominions at Imperial Councils, and an Imperial Appeal Court were brought before the Imperial Conference by men representing women voters. Our representatives were consulted in Defence and International Politics. In the name of their constituents (men and women), they demanded the right to be consulted on all Imperial questions. Their proposals were rejected by the "Imperial Government" which fails to realise, as Australia and New Zealand women do, the need of a United Empire. The Dominions have been before instead of behind Britain in the realisation of Empire. It seems as if women had by their influence developed an Imperial conscience as well as a moral and altruistic standard in domestic legislation.

4.—*Home life has been ruined by the vote.*

Home life and all the conditions for happiness have been improved by giving men and women an additional mutual interest and equal power in determining the future of their children.

5.—*Women would neglect their homes.*

This cry was very loud before we got the vote, but now we have the testimony of "antis," that no such calamity has befallen the homes. There are instances of women who spend their days playing golf and bridge (they do not take the trouble to vote), but there is no case on record in which the vote has been blamed for neglect of home.

6.—*The vote would cause dissension in homes.*

An "anti" visitor from New Zealand, in a letter to the *Morning Post* of August 4, 1910, wrote:—"It has brought about no family quarrels to speak of," and so he did not speak of one, much as he would have enjoyed the opportunity! No one has ever mentioned one such case during the eighteen years since the Franchise became law. There have been family quarrels caused by bad cooking, hats and frocks, education of children, religion, late hours at clubs, over-indulgence in champagne, and other matters of less significance, but no case in which either husband or wife has blamed the vote for unhappiness in their married life.

7.—*Drunkenness has increased as a result of the temperance regulations secured by the women's vote.*

The statement is one of the half-truths so dear to the "womanly anti-mind." The number of cases has increased, but the percentage has decreased. With an increase of 22,284 in population the number of cases is bound to increase. New arrivals, numbering 12,000 from the country that refuses to enfranchise its women, may account for the increase.

8.—*There is more alcohol drunk in the no-licence districts than formerly, and secret drinking has become the rule.*

Compared with other parts of the Dominion there was only a twelfth part of beer and a hundredth part of wine and spirits consumed in the no-licence area. There has been a reduction of 90 per cent in drunkenness in no-licence districts and crime has almost disappeared. The testimony of judges, magistrates, doctors, clergy, mayors, and other leading citizens verifies this statement and court records prove it.

9.—*Women believe in Prohibition.*

There is no Prohibition in New Zealand. We submit the regulation of the liquor traffic to the people at a Local Option Poll. In December we are to have a National Option Poll and the result will show the strength of the woman's vote for temperance.

10.—*New Zealand women are "Anti-Gambling."*

(What a blessing they are "anti" something!! It ought to make an Imperial bond with the Anti-Suffragists.) They are not all "anti-gambling." Even if they were does it denote a low standard of womanhood or constitute a danger to the State?

(Lady Stout's concluding article will be published next week.)

ALBERT HALL MEETING.

Thursday, March 28.

The Women's Social and Political Union are holding a meeting in the Royal Albert Hall, London, on Thursday evening, March 28, at 8 p.m. The chair will be taken by Mrs. Pankhurst. In view of the critical events with regard to Woman Suffrage which are expected to take place after the opening of Parliament on February 14, this meeting will be of special importance, and members of the W.S.P.U. are invited to make early application for tickets for themselves and their friends.

It will be remembered that, as on former occasions, the rules of the Albert Hall prevent the public sale of tickets, and therefore it rests with the members of the W.S.P.U. to fill the Hall by the purchase of tickets from Miss Cooke, the Ticket Secretary, W.S.P.U., 4, Clements Inn, W.C. The prices are as follows: Amphitheatre Stalls, 2s. 6d.; Arena, 2s. and 1s.; Lower Orchestra, 2s. and 1s.; Balcony, 1s. and 6d.; Upper Orchestra, 6d.; all numbered and reserved. Boxes, £1 10s., £1 1s., and 12s. 6d. Tickets will be ready on Monday next.

THE NEXT PROTEST.

Day by day the names come in! Some of those who are offering themselves for the next protest have already done yeoman service in the great fight; others are new recruits. The following extracts from letters speak for themselves:—

Will you again accept my name for the next deputation, or protest, against the Government? My admiration for our leader of November 21, and the other brave women who have suffered, and of those who are still suffering imprisonment as a consequence of their actions, makes me more determined to continue in active service until the fight is won. Having marvellously escaped arrest myself on the 21st, I now offer you my freedom for any urgent protest which may be necessary. Meanwhile, I will sell VOTES FOR WOMEN every Friday at Oxford Circus.

Do me the honour to put my name down for the next deputation. I have duties to husband, home, children, and rescue work; but I feel the lesser are contained in the greater duty of securing the vote. Besides, I cannot face the brave women who have already given this service. I cannot feel that I am worthy to be in the same organisation as they until I, too, have done my little part.

The day I went to prison I told you I intended to take part in the next deputation or protest, and I now wish to confirm what I said then as a good beginning of a New Year.

I cannot start the New Year without having my name down for the next fight. I am ready for anything. A week's imprisonment only made me determined to do more damage next time, and so I am ready.

Will you kindly put down my name for the next militant protest? I fully realise that the only way to get the vote is to fight for it and to fight hard.

Names of volunteers should be sent to Miss Christabel Pankhurst, 4, Clements Inn, W.C.

WOMEN DOCTORS IN INDIA.

An interesting and important letter from a "Retired Administrator" appeared in the *Times* of January 2, in which the following details were given:—

"Roughly, a hundred millions of women either refuse medical treatment by men or are so averse to it that they put it off until it is too late to be of use. The result is a mass of unrelieved agony and premature death which cannot be put into figures or words. I say this after 35 years of close intercourse with the people, and no one can gainsay it without convicting himself of ignorance of a great underlying problem of the country. What I think the British public ought to know is that the Government of India, as such while it has kept up for generations a splendidly organised and expensive medical service for men, has done almost nothing for the mothers and wives on whom the vitality of the people depends—the women whose only crime is conformity with the Oriental code of self-respect. An instance only too obvious to the close observer of our skin-deep methods of rule. I well remember my first glimpse of the realities, now many years ago. I was walking through a prosperous village when I heard groaning inside a house of which the door stood ajar. Pushing it open I found a woman lying alone on a damp floor with a heavy stone on her body and evidently in great pain. She had lately been confined under the gentle attentions of the village *sage-femme*. Two or three days afterwards I was told the poor soul was dead, and the only wonder was that so many others escaped the same fate. Later on I was specially connected officially with the country squire class, whose ladies never appeared in public. When one of them fell ill, as frequently happened, she was left to get well, or live on as an invalid, or die, as the chance might be, without skilled advice or help of any kind whatever—a wholly unnecessary sacrifice of woman-life going on to this day. One case I remember in which the husband was rich and spared no expense. . . . A male practitioner was called in who was allowed to feel the patient's pulse through a hole in the curtain, and who prescribed a solution of pearls, to be prepared of course by himself in his own house on receipt of the pearls! One more recent reminiscence may seem quaint to English ears but is none the less significant as showing a standpoint of the Eastern husband. I was encamped near a town of some size when a deputation of the leading traders and others came with a request for the establishment of a local women's hospital. The chief point on which they laid stress was the mortality of young wives among them. This, they said, had lately imposed on so many of them the heavy cost of a second marriage as to cause them serious financial trouble, in consideration of which they were prepared to contribute to the building fund and also agree to a portion of the current expenditure being made a charge on the local rates! Nor would I urge the claims of a woman doctorate only on the grounds of ordinary humanity. The greatest difficulty that besets an alien Government is that of getting an intelligent knowledge of what is felt and done below the surface, and the Government of India by its apathy in this matter cuts itself off from the recesses of native life. A very experienced woman doctor once told me as magistrate of the district that the number of girls physically ruined as the result of child-marriage was surprising to her though she was herself a Hindu. I do not press any inference from this particular statement, but I do assert that it indicates a large class of facts of grave social import on which no Government of India can be accurately informed without the assistance of women doctors practising in every locality and among every section of the community.

"Now the Government service of men has done fine work within its circumscribed limits. . . . Formerly the doctor of the village for the men was the barber, as his wife still is for the women. . . . But all the time two-thirds of the women have been practically ignored by the State and left to three non-official agencies—the missionaries, Lady Dufferin's Fund, and here and there hospitals started by local philanthropy. The missionaries are necessarily few in number, but as a rule their work is excellent and they show their knowledge of the problem by excluding all male access to their hospitals. The Lady Dufferin Fund has done work worthy of the honoured name it bears, but is not equal to meeting a great Imperial demand. The pay, pension, and official position of its doctors are not such as to tempt many highly-qualified women to give the best years of their lives to India. The selection of the doctors and the management of the hospital is in the hands of a local committee, who often do not recognise the necessity of high efficiency, and who in more than one instance known to me so far failed to understand the facts as to make their building an addition to the general institution under the personal supervision of the civil surgeon.

"I have no authority to speak for the medical women of India, but believe it is not for money they chiefly ask. A small fraction of the sum newly granted for education would content them. They do not wish for the present to increase the number of central hospitals. Outlying dispensaries in charge of solitary women they would rather reduce as being in some respects in advance of native feeling. Instead of the present system of casual recruits they propose a graded service manned on a fixed principle, attracting competent practitioners by regular promotion and reasonable pay, and ensuring their appointment to the responsible posts. They ask to be given the advantage of State recognition and guidance, which has done so much for the men, and more particularly they desire suitable inspection and control by a woman deputy-surgeon-general in every province to act under the orders of the surgeon-general. Above all they ask for the ungrudging support and sympathy of Government, which counts for so much in India in the early stages of a reform, and which a great national work has a right to expect."

ON PRISON TREATMENT.

The following extract from a letter to the *Nation*, by Miss Evelyn Sharp, will be read with special interest. Miss Sharp, it will be remembered, was sentenced to fourteen days' imprisonment for breaking windows at the War Office on Nov. 21. After speaking of the improvement in prison conditions, Miss Sharp says: "Certain undoubted privileges have been granted—I should call them rights if they formed part of a first division treatment and were not merely granted as a kind of apology for imprisonment in the second division—owing to the action of the women who went through the hunger strike in 1909 as a protest against being treated as criminal offenders. Those sent to prison in connection with the recent suffrage disturbances have been allowed to wear their own clothes, to walk and talk together in the prison yard during exercise, to read their own books and do their own needlework, to have their cells cleaned out, and to have food sent in if desired. They are still forbidden to have writing materials, or to receive letters and newspapers, or to hold any communication with the outer world beyond the ordinary prison allowance of one letter and one visitor a fortnight. Their position is that of a second-class prisoner enjoying special treatment for some reason that remains to be defined. It cannot be that their offence does not show moral turpitude, as was supposed when the new rules were framed; for I could find no instance of similar treatment being accorded to other second-class prisoners of whom this would be equally true, women who were in gaol because of their poverty, because they could not pay their rates, for instance, or the fine for keeping their children from school.

"Nor can it be because suffragists are frankly recognised as political offenders; in that case they would be placed in the first division, as was Mr. Ginnell, to quote only one case, who saw his friends and was allowed to carry on his Parliamentary business when imprisoned for inciting to cattle driving with a political motive. When one of the imprisoned suffragists, by profession a writer, petitioned last month for the right to carry on her work in prison, to see her secretary if necessary, and to receive newspapers, she was given a curt refusal on a printed form, and no reason was alleged. Another suffragist, now undergoing a sentence of two months, has been told that she will not be allowed the usual remission of ten days off her sentence because, profiting by the new rules, she has not been doing the prison work.* The only conclusion to be drawn from such inconsistency of action on the part of the Home Office is the old one, that justice is for men and privileges are for women. A suffragist has only to go to prison in order to discover afresh why she is a suffragist."

WOMEN JUDGES.

At Tacoma, Washington, Judge Easterday, during the hearing of a recent divorce case, called upon three women to share the bench and give their advice. After thinking over the case, he had come to the conclusion that it was one which women were better able to judge than men.

"THE MIRACLE."

The much discussed wordless play at Olympia is daily attracting thousands of spectators. In the opening scenes one has the curious sensation of being within the nave of a vast cathedral of the middle-ages, where hundreds of worshippers do homage to the magnificent statue of the wonder-working Madonna, while the organ peals and the pilgrims chant their pathetic appeal for relief from various ills. As the story moves on, the beautiful Nun to whom is entrusted the care of the Image proves unfaithful to her charge; she is lured away into the world by a mysterious piper, and we follow her through many scenes, most of them depicting the degradation of beautiful womanhood to its lowest depths, and one of which, even in this "Rake's Progress," should not have been necessary on any stage. Meanwhile, the Madonna comes down from her pedestal and takes the place of the Nun, and when, a bedraggled camp follower with a child at her breast, the runaway returns, she is received back and reinstated, while showers of roses fall from the roof. The play, which is on so immense a scale as to fall rather under the category of pageant, leaves one with an impression of magnificent grouping, colours, and sounds, but beyond and above all is the beautiful figure of the living Madonna, majestic and queenly, but withal sweetly human in her pity and forgiveness of the penitent. One may read many things into a wordless play, and "The Miracle" should make even the thoughtless spectator meditate upon relationships between some men and some women.

A NEW "MEDEA."

The part of "Medea," at the New Players' matinée of "Medea," at the Kingsway Theatre, on February 5th, will be played by Miss Adeline Bourne, an actress of unusual power and temperament, as her renderings of Salomé and Monna Vanna have proved. Mr. Philip Merivale, who made such a success in "Atalanta in Calydon," is the Jason, Miss Evelyn Walsh Hall is the Leader of the Chorus, Mr. Guy Rathbone the Messenger, and Mrs. Saba Raleigh the Nurse.

*We understand that this applies to all the suffragists now in Holloway.—Ed. Votes for Women.

MRS. PANKHURST.

A Canadian paper, which has been sent to England by a Canadian M.P. who was present at Mrs. Pankhurst's Winnipeg meeting and expressed himself as being quite converted to the cause of Woman Suffrage and much impressed by Mrs. Pankhurst's able speech, says:—

"Five years ago it is questionable whether Mrs. Pankhurst could have drawn two hundred people to a hall in Winnipeg to hear her defend her cause. The fact that 500 of our most intelligent citizens crowded to pay their money to hear her on Saturday evening is significant of the increased prestige of the movement which she so ably represents. . . . Up to date the women of Canada have remained apathetic. Their blood has not been stirred by the clarion call to battle. They are willing to go on trusting their husbands in the matter of representation. This is a silent tribute to the Canadian husband. But there is no telling what the future may have in store for the men of Canada. The present successful tour of Mrs. Pankhurst may sow the seeds of rebellion, and the University Women's Club and other women's organisations may put on the war paint and throw their present neutrality to the winds, joining in the English and American agitation of "Votes for Women."

Kindly lent by the "Daily Express."

NORWAY'S POLICEWOMAN.

Miss Henriksen, the first woman policeman in Norway, in her dark blue uniform. She has passed the qualifying training tests. Her salary, we are informed, is £70 a year.

MR. CECIL CHAPMAN.

Mr. Cecil M. Chapman, metropolitan magistrate, speaking at Westbourne Park Chapel on Sunday on the subject of "Woman and Citizenship," said that women wanted recognition as human beings, and liberty to make use of the talents they possessed. The attitude of mind of nine out of ten men was that of Burke, that women were a negligible quantity. Why, he asked, did women sacrifice themselves, and submit to indignity, misrepresentation, and pain? Because there was a sense of oppression which had become at last unendurable. The wrong was that women were not recognised as individuals before the law and in the Constitution. Women asked for no privilege without welcoming the corresponding responsibility. What they wanted was a human world, a human home.

PRISONERS' HAMPERS.

Mrs. Marshall gratefully acknowledges 10s. 6d. from Miss Pole. This brings up the sum to £19 13s. Mrs. Marshall would like friends to understand that if they wish to send anything further to the prisoners she would be glad to pack it for Holloway. She is sending a further supply to-day, Friday, and will be glad of any contribution in the form of mince pies, fruit of any kind, jam, cakes, books, or anything else suitable. They can be sent to Room 94, 4, Clements Inn, W.C.

SPEAKERS' CLASS.

Hon. Elocution Mistress—Miss Rosa Lee, 43, Ashworth Mansions, Elgin Avenue, W.
Hon. Secretary—Miss Hale, 4, Clements Inn, W.C.

The classes will recommence to-night (Friday) at 7.45 sharp, when the subject will be, "A Review of the Chief Events During the Past Year up to the Present Situation." Will all those members who have taken books from the library please return them without fail to-night? Miss Lee's Private Classes, open to members of W.S.P.U. only, will take place every Saturday afternoon, commencing January 13, at 4 p.m., at 41, Norfolk Square, W., by kind permission of Mrs. Ayrton.

CLERKS' W.S.P.U.

Hon. Secs.—Miss Phyllis Ayrton, 63, Edith Road, West Kensington. Miss Cynthia Maguire, 18, Carlton Vale, Maida Vale, N.W.

Members are asked to devote all their energies to collecting for the Jumble Sale, which will be held in conjunction with the Islington Union towards the end of February. Parcels may be sent at any time, marked "Clerks' W.S.P.U.," to Miss Casserley, 347, Goswell Road, E.C. The Ludgate Hill and Liverpool Street pitches should be well supplied with sellers.

THE ACTRESSES' FRANCHISE LEAGUE.

2, Robert Street, Strand, W.C. Telephone: City 121.
President—Mrs. Forbes Robertson.
Organising Secretary—Miss G. M. Conolan.

An At Home will be held in the Grand Hall of the Criterion Restaurant to-day (Friday) at 3 p.m. Miss Winifred Mayo will take the chair, Mrs. Gilbert Samuel, Mrs. Percy Dearmer and Sir John Rolleston will speak, and Miss Lily Brayton will be the hostess. The next members' At Home will be held at 2, Robert Street, Strand, on Friday, January 26, at 3 p.m. Hostess: Miss Adeline Bourne.

MEN'S POLITICAL UNION
For Women's Enfranchisement.

Offices—13, Buckingham Street, Strand, W.C.
Telephone—City 6673.
Hon. Organising Sec.—Victor D. Duval.

We are still without definite information as to whether our two members in Pentonville Prison are being forcibly fed or not; but we have been told officially that Mr. Macdougal is "earning remission," but that Mr. Ball is not. In view of the most critical situation and the probability of concerted militant action becoming a necessity in the near future, all men willing to volunteer for a Men's Protest are requested to send in their names, as soon as possible, to Mr. Frank Rutter 87, Chancery Lane, W.C. Sacrifice even of personal liberty during the present year may obviate the still more terrible sacrifices which must unfailingly be demanded later if a Manhood Suffrage Bill is passed without giving sex equality to women.

The Hon. Treasurer most gratefully acknowledges the following generous donations, and calls upon those men whose sympathy has not yet stirred them into action to help in this way.

Amount already acknowledged ..	£1,247	9	0
Lady E. Knyvett	1	1	0
Miss A. C. G. Wright	5	0	0
Miss B. Forbes	0	5	0
Miss B. Brewster	1	0	0
Lady Constance Lytton	1	0	0
Arthur E. W. Marshall, Esq.	10	0	0
Miss J. C. Methven	5	5	0
Horace Burrell, Esq.	0	5	0
Miss Elspeth Weir	0	5	0
Miss A. L. Durham	0	5	0
Ernest D. Löwy, Esq.	5	0	0
Miss Gertrude Löwy	0	10	0
Mrs. F. J. Tollemache	0	10	0
Miss Julie Morris	1	1	0
Mrs. Ireland, per Tunbridge Wells W.S.P.U.	0	2	6
Miss Wedgwood " " "	0	2	6
Miss Geoman " " "	0	2	6
Miss Walton " " "	0	3	0
Miss Davis " " "	0	2	6
Mrs. Davis " " "	0	2	6
Mrs. Harverson " " "	0	2	6
Membership fees	0	2	0
Total	£1,279	16	0

OUR POST BOX.

THE RECURRING THOUGHT.

To the Editors of Votes for Women.

Dear Editors,—May I be allowed to thank the author of "The Recurring Thought," in last week's Votes for Women, for expressing so well the feeling of hundreds of us, for whom going to prison is, largely from economic causes, a sheer impossibility? If the prisoners could know how we envy them!—Yours, etc.,

Doods Park Road, Reigate. G. D. S.

AN INTERESTING SIDE LIGHT.

To the Editors of Votes for Women.

Dear Editors,—In this week's Votes for Women, under the column entitled "The World We Live In," there is a reprint from the *Sketch*, in which we are told that, according to an eminent anthropologist, the date of the abolition of Matriarchy was when man first enclosed spaces to till the land, and that the reason of the introduction of Patriarchy was the wish of the father to recognise his own offspring, in order to leave them the property he had acquired.

I should like to point out that Professor Jenks, in his "Short History of Politics," gives us a different reason—not quite so pious—for the introduction of Patriarchy, and tells us that man evinced a desire to own and control his wives and children, because he found their power to labour for him so very useful. The Professor points out that the husband was very particular about claiming all the wife's children, though not always so particular who really was the father. It seems that women resented the new method, and that it was necessary to use a good deal of physical force, the man often taking a friend or relative to help him to capture the unwilling bride. There are many survivals of those old days in our present day marriage customs. The pretence of unwillingness, which many women still affect, is a relic of the real resentment. The "Best Man" is a relic of the friend who went to help, while the marriage portion is a survival of the old-time custom of paying the girl's father for the loss of her labour, though now this is settled on the bride herself. Good Luck to our paper, Votes for Women, and Votes for Women this year!—Yours, etc.,

Ethel Lewis.

AN APOLOGY.

To the Editors of Votes for Women.

Dear Editors,—I feel I owe you an apology, for I have to my sorrow occasionally spoken against your cause. But this week, a few nights ago, I attended a meeting on the subject of Women's Rights at our "Local Parliament," and I, although I went a determined Anti-Suffragist, came back to my fireside thoroughly converted to the cause, owing to the powerful speech of one of your advocates. I would fain offer some reparation. If I can be of any service to you I offer my humble efforts on your behalf.—Yours, etc.,

Algernon Ashton.

24, Holmdale Road, West Hampstead.

W.S.P.U. ANNOUNCEMENTS.

We are sorry to announce that, owing to the delay in crossing, Mrs. Pankhurst will be unable to be present at the Monday afternoon meeting at the London Pavilion, Piccadilly Circus, W., on Monday next, January 15. She will arrive on the "Minnesota" on Tuesday. Mrs. Pethick Lawrence and Miss Christabel Pankhurst will therefore be the speakers on Monday, at 3.15. The evening meetings will be resumed at the Steinway Hall on Thursday evening, January 18, at 8 p.m., when Miss Christabel Pankhurst and Mrs. Pertwee will speak. Both these meetings are free, and are held weekly. Similar meetings are held weekly in all centres where the W.S.P.U. is represented, see pp. 241-2.

Release of Prisoners.

Owing to the refusal of the Home Secretary to grant the remission of sentences usual in the case of ordinary prisoners, the Suffragettes now in Holloway are due to be released as follows:—Mrs. Roy Bothwell, Tuesday, January 16; Mrs. Leigh, Tuesday, January 23. The following, sentenced on December 12, will be released on Saturday, February 10:—

Miss Evelyn Taylor	Miss Lelegarde Atheling
Mrs. Archdale	Miss Cicely Wilcox
Miss A. Connor Smith	Miss Vera Wentworth
Miss V. Hudson Harvey	Miss Olive Wharry
Mrs. Francis Rowe	Miss Margaret Wallis
Mrs. Mary Violet Jones	Miss Pothury

The following will be released on Monday, February 12:—

Miss Grace Stuart.	Miss Margaret Robinson.
Miss Ethel Slade.	Miss Sarah Benett.
Miss Edith Hudleston.	Miss Georgina Helen Grant

STREATHAM AND WOMEN'S FRANCHISE.

The question of women's franchise is exciting considerable interest in Streatham, which is perhaps one of the most conservative suburbs in London. Over a year ago an interesting debate on the subject took place in the Streatham Parliament, when Miss Marjorie Corbett conducted the debate in the interests of the movement. On the division the motion was defeated by a very large majority. Some few months ago a further debate on the question took place under the auspices of the Streatham Women's Conservative Association, Mrs. Corbett Ashby holding the brief for the Suffrage, with Mrs. Gladstone Solomon leading for the "Antis." The division on this occasion showed that the Women's Movement had in the meantime made considerable progress in Streatham, the majority against Mrs. Ashby's motion being a very small one. To-day (Friday), another motion on the question will be brought forward affirming the undesirability of extending the franchise to women. All this shows the excellent propaganda work which has been done by the Streatham Branch of the W.S.P.U.

"Day by day the lives of thousands of sweated workers and their insufficiently nourished little children are being broken and their souls imperilled by economic conditions which the suffragettes are endeavouring to remedy; but the Press, which is so indignant over the damage to a few windows, is silent about this irreparable injury to body and soul."

—Agnes Murphy, in a letter to the *Freeman*.

1,000 NEW READERS WANTED!

Those of our members who are unable to offer their personal freedom during these coming strenuous months are reminded that there is always one great work which all can do—*i.e.*, getting new readers! So many of the outside public are anxious to know why we are militant. Give them Votes for Women, and then they will understand.

Writing from New York to renew her subscription, Mrs. J. B. Fagan says:—"I do miss the paper so much when it does not arrive, though I am glad to say many of my American friends have it."

Miss May Havers (Balham) sends us the following extract. The writer of the letter, who lives in South Africa, is over 70 years of age, has never come in contact with a single Suffragette, and knew nothing whatever of the movement until Votes for Women was sent to her twelve months ago, since which time she has read it regularly:—

"I don't admire women breaking windows, but I expect they are so aggravated that they don't think of the consequences. It seems a great shame that they should be so humbugged, time after time. What splendid work some of the women have done! The fact is, the men are afraid the women will put some of them in the shade. I do hope the women will soon carry the day. They deserve to, when they give so much time, energy, and money to benefit other women."

"I think," says Miss Havers, "this is another proof of the far-spreading influence of the paper, and the value of getting new subscribers."

New subscribers obtained by:—

Previously Acknowledged	212
The Hon. Mrs. Blythe ...	2
Miss N. C. Billing	1
Mrs. R. Bannerman	1
Miss M. A. Brice	2
Miss F. M. Byrne	1
Mrs. Court	1
Miss Dunbar	1
Miss I. Edwards	1
Miss M. S. Evans	1
Mrs. Guest	1
Mrs. Gover	1
Mrs. Basil Green	1
Miss S. Jones	1
Miss Bertram Jones	1
Lady Lely	3
Miss Midgley	1
Miss E. C. Mott	1
A Member who is Prevented from Active Service	1
Mrs. Morris	1
Miss K. Wykeham Martin	1
Mrs. Reinold	2
Miss Rodgan	2
Miss E. Snow	1
Mrs. K. Turner	1
Miss Veacy	1
Miss S. Wylie	3
Miss K. Ward	1
Miss Yerbury	1
	243

New readers who obtain their paper locally, obtained by:—

Previously Acknowledged	138
Miss H. Foster	1
Miss M. Tollemache	1
Mrs. Jackson	3
	143

(In last week's list Mrs. C. Cruikshell was incorrectly entered as Miss C. Cruikshell.)

CAMPAIGN THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY.

W.S.P.U. General Offices: 4, Clements Inn, Strand, W.C.

BARNET.

Hon. Sec.—Miss Sue Watt, 13, Strafford Road.

Members are asked to concentrate during the next three weeks on working up the Ewen Hall meeting on February 6, at 8 p.m. Speakers, Mr. Atherley Jones, K.C., M.P., Miss Isabel Seymour, and others. Reserved seats, 1s. Admission free. Help is needed in selling tickets and in bill-distributing. The next At Home is at Tilbury's Tea Rooms on January 24, at 3.30 p.m.; speaker, Mrs. Pertwee. Members please bring as many new friends as possible.

CHELSEA, BATTERSEA, KENSAL TOWN.

Shop and Office—308, King's Road.
Hon. Secs.—Miss Haig and Miss Blacklock.

Paper selling has started well this year. Many thanks to Miss Burney, Miss Jollie, Miss Proctor, and Miss Stratton for their help during the holidays. Mrs. Tomlin has kindly promised to give an At Home on February 2. Miss Joachim will take the chair, and Mrs. Brailsford will explain the political situation. The Secs. would be glad of more offers of drawing-rooms for meetings before the opening of Parliament.

CROYDON.

Office—50, High Street. Tel. 969 Croydon (Nat.).
Hon. Sec. (pro tem.)—Miss I. Green.

Tickets (price 6d.) for Miss Isabel Green's competition evening on Monday next (see programme) can be obtained from the shop secretary. Donations towards another hamper to be sent to Miss Wallis in Holloway will be welcome. Gratefully acknowledged: Miss Goghan, 1s.; Mrs. Inglis, 5s.; Miss Reynolds, 2s. 6d.; Miss C. I. Green, £1 9s.; Mrs. Reeder, 2s. 6d.; Anon, £1; Miss I. Green (out of Christmas pudding), 1s. A grand midsummer fête will be held in June in aid of local funds. Members are asked to do all in their power to make this fête a great success. Work parties will meet every alternate Monday evening and Wednesday afternoon at 50, High Street, beginning Wednesday, January 24, at 2.30 p.m. Miss G. Brackenbury's brilliant address to the Thornton Heath Parliament, on January 5, resulted in a victory for Woman Suffrage, a good majority of votes being gained for the resolution which embodied the principle of Votes for Women and the necessity of granting them on equal terms with men.

FULHAM AND PUTNEY.

Shop—805, Fulham Road.
Hon. Secs.—Miss L. Cutten and Mrs. Roberts.

Open air meetings will be resumed on Saturday, January 20. Will each member support at least one meeting a week? The Jumble Sale takes place to-morrow (Saturday.) Helpers and gifts of any and every description will be much appreciated.

HACKNEY.

Office—78, Lower Clapton Road.
Hon. Sec.—Mrs. F. W. Jones, 39, Pembury Road.

Weekly meetings will be resumed at Hackney Baths to-day (Friday), and members are earnestly asked to make a special effort to attend regularly, as it is very important that an active campaign should be undertaken before Parliament reassembles.

HAMMERSMITH.

Hon. Sec. (pro tem.)—Miss Carson, 40, Melrose Gardens.

Members are reminded of next Wednesday's meeting (see programme), when plans for a forthcoming event of great interest to all will be discussed. Will those who can spare one hour weekly for paper selling please attend in order that a time table may be drawn up.

HAMPSTEAD.

Shop and Office—178, Finchley Road.
Hon. Secs.—Mrs. Hicks and Miss C. Collier.

Members are asked to get posters advertising the Town Hall meeting on January 24 shown wherever possible, and to send in their names for a special poster parade to take place on Saturday morning, January 20. Tickets (1s. and 6d.) may be had (on sale or return), at the office. The Bazaar Committee is glad to be able to hand over to headquarters an additional £30 beside the £50 due as half takings at the Christmas Fête stall. Mrs. Clayton has kindly promised to continue the Tuesday afternoon work parties in view of a special colour sale to be held in March. They will begin on January 15, 3 to 5 as before.

HENDON AND GOLDER'S GREEN.

Office: 26b, The Parade, Golder's Green.
Hon. Org. Sec.—Mrs. Wyatt, Darby House, Hendon.

Several meetings are being arranged for the next few weeks. As it is difficult to make final arrangements without knowing how many workers can be relied upon for stewarding, will members who are able to help at either afternoon or evening meetings kindly send in their names to the Meetings Organiser? Fresh additions to the membership and subscription lists are needed particularly to replace the loss due to the removal from the district of two or three members.

ILFORD.

Hon. Sec.—Miss Haslam, 68, Cranbrook Road.

The Barking meeting on Wednesday was addressed by Miss M. Harvey, and an exceptional number of papers were sold. The sale of papers at Saturday's meeting was also good. A number of stewards are required for the public meeting in the Reading Room on Thursday, January 25, at 8 p.m. Members who have not been able to sell all their tickets (reserved front seats at 6d.) should return them to the secretary not later than Saturday, January 20th. Splendid speakers have been secured. It rests with local members to see that this is well known among their friends and acquaintances.

KENSINGTON.

Shop and Office—143, Church Street, Kensington, W. Tel., 2116 Western. Hon. Sec.—Miss Evelyn Sharp.

The Annual General Meeting for members only will be held next Wednesday (see programme). All Kensington members are urged to make a special effort to attend and hear the report of last year's work, and discuss plans for the coming year. The meeting will be followed by tea and an At Home, at which the Rev. E. Hounslow will be one of the speakers; and it is hoped that members will invite friends—if possible anti-Suffragists—to come to this at 4 o'clock. Invitation cards can be obtained at the Shop. An excellent stock of books, directly and indirectly dealing with the movement, are now to be seen at the Shop. Other books can be ordered by post or otherwise; a few diaries and calendars still remain unsold. Miss Nancy Lightman and Miss E. Wylie are welcomed as new members, and the following are thanked for donations: Mrs. Bass, 2s. 6d.; Miss Julia Green, 1s.; Lady Horne, £1.

NORTH ISLINGTON AND HORNSEY.

Hon. Sec.—Miss Constance Bryer, 49, Tufnell Pk., N.

Now that holidays are over, it is hoped that members will again take up paper-selling at Finsbury Park and Nag's Head, both being very good and important pitches. Members and friends are asked to keep the evening of Jan. 25 free, when Mr. Reginald Pott will be the speaker at the At Home. They are also reminded that they can, if they desire, send provisions to Holloway prisoners per the Rev. F. M. Green, of Tollington Park, every Friday. Thanks and apologies for late acknowledgment to Mrs. Landon for gift of 5s.; Mrs. Herbert, money and lace, and Miss Leslie, 5s. given and 5s. collected.

N.W. LONDON.

Office—215, High Road, Kilburn. Tel. 1183, Hampstead. Hon. Sec.—Mrs. Penn Gaskell.

In spite of a very wet night, the Committee Rooms were crowded on Saturday, 6th, by an audience eager to hear Miss Davison's address on "Why I did it." Some of the artistes who had promised their services were prevented by professional engagements from being present, but others took their places, and a delightful programme was carried out with the aid of Mr. Frank Witty, Miss Cole, Miss Cromer, and Miss Bertha Lewey, to whom grateful thanks are given. The sale of leadless glaze china has been so successful that it will be continued during this week in the shop, and after that in the Committee Room overhead. In order to clear there will be great reductions. Will members make this known? The outdoor meetings have been most successful. Gratefully acknowledged: Miss Deedy, 5s.; Mrs. Penn Gaskell, 5s.; Miss Edith Myers, 3s. 6d.; Miss Edith Wilson, 5s.

PADDINGTON AND MARYLEBONE.

Shop and Office—50, Praed Street, W.
Hon. Sec.—Mrs. Haverfield.

The usual Wednesday evening meetings at above address will be resumed on Wednesday, January 24, at 8 p.m.

RADLETT.

Hon. Sec.—Mrs. White, Gravels.

Members and friends are asked to keep the evening of January 30 free, and to do what they can towards securing a thoroughly good attendance at the Parish Hall meeting on that date, to be addressed by Mr. Atherley Jones, K.C., M.P., and others.

STREATHAM.

Shop and Office—5, Shrubbery Road, Streatham.
Hon. Sec.—Miss Leonora Tyson.

The next members' meeting will be held at above address on Tuesday, January 23, at 8 p.m. Fresh plans will be discussed, and it is hoped that as many members as possible will attend this meeting.

WEST HAM.

Hon. Sec.—Miss D. M. Hooper, Old Manor Farm, Squirrels Heath, Essex.

The dance on January 4 was a great success, and added several new members to the Union. Miss Helen Jacobs is cordially thanked for her beautiful programme design. Will all those who so generously supplied refreshments and helped in other ways accept the committee's very hearty thanks, the list of names being too long for insertion? It is with keen regret that the Union loses the services of Miss Heanley, who, owing to pressure of other Suffrage work, can no longer retain the treasurership. Success to her work in East Ham! Please bring or send unconverted friends to the meeting on January 16 (see programme). Tickets may be obtained from Mrs. Parker, 90, Cecil Road, Upton Manor. Will members also make widely known the series of special lectures at Earlham Hall? The first is on January 24, at 8 p.m., when Mrs. Brailsford will speak.

WIMBLEDON.

Shop—9, Victoria Crescent, Broadway. Tel. 1092, P.O. Wimbledon. Hon. Sec.—Mrs. Lamartine Yates, Dorset Hall, Merton, Surrey.

The Jumble Sale has been fixed for Saturday, January 20. Will all who still have parcels to send see that they reach Dorset Hall not later than Monday, that the pricing committee may complete their work in good time? Stewards for this should also send in their names without delay. The Annual Prisoners' Dinner will probably be held at the Lecture Hall, and be followed by an informal social gathering. Two offers of Drawing-room meetings have already come in, and it is hoped others will follow. Next Sunday the Common meetings begin, Mrs. Bouvier being the speaker. More sellers are wanted for these meetings; will they give in their names to Miss Lee. The spring series of public meetings will begin on Feb. 21. Reserved tickets, price 1s.; can now be had. Members are reminded that the indelibly stamped "Votes for Women" soap, exhibited at the Portman Rooms, is the exclusive property of the Wimbledon Union, and can be obtained from them in both sizes at any time.

WIMBLEDON PARK AND S. WIMBLEDON.

Hon. Sec.—Miss Allan, 79, Woodside, Wimbledon. Tel.—1057 P.O.

Members are reminded of the At Home on Wednesday next (see programme). Tea at four o'clock. Friends and sympathisers cordially invited. The Jumble Sale in the evening at the same address, 7-10 p.m., promises to be a great success. Please remember all articles sent to the secretary at above address should arrive not later than 11.30 on Wednesday morning. Members and friends are asked to keep January 31 free; particulars will be given later. A record meeting was held in the Broadway on Saturday evening, in spite of the inclement weather. Speakers: Miss Geraldine Lennox, Mrs. Dacre Fox, and Mrs. Heard in the chair. VOTES FOR WOMEN were sold out, and even after a meeting of two hours the audience was loth to go. Two smart VOTE bags have been presented to the Union, and are much appreciated by paper sellers. Acknowledged with thanks: Mrs. Farren, 5s.; Mrs. Allan, 1s.; Mrs. Saunders, 1s.; Miss Joan Dugdale, 1s. 2d. (expenses returned).—Mrs. Bather, Mrs. Dacre Fox, and Miss Allan have promised to subscribe weekly. Will others follow their example?

Home Counties.

BEXHILL-ON-SEA.

Shop—29, Station Road. Organiser—Miss D. A. Bowker. Hon. Sec.—Mrs. Holden, 19, Eversley Road.

Many thanks to those who worked to make the meeting on January 9 a success. Volunteers for shop-minding are greatly needed; and promises to secure fresh subscribers to the paper will be welcome. The advisability of trying to secure a shop in the centre of the town was discussed at the last Members' Meeting; but it was felt that it would be too great a responsibility unless promises of help and financial support were forthcoming. Will every member seriously consider what she can do to help at this juncture? And Bexhill, it is hoped, will live up to its reputation.

BOURNEMOUTH.

Office—221, Old Christchurch Road.
Hon. Sec. (pro tem.)—Miss B. Berry.

The At Home (see below) has been postponed to Monday, January 15, at 4 p.m. Members are reminded that their annual subscriptions are now due, and should be sent to Miss E. M. Pridden, Chevington Croft, Parkstone, Dorset. Gratefully acknowledged: Miss Morgan Jones, 5s.

Mon., Jan. 15.—Freedom Hall, Loughtonhurst, West Cliff Gardens, Mrs. Cavendish Bentinck, 4 p.m.

BRIGHTON, HOVE AND DISTRICT.

Office—8, North Street, Quadrant. Tel. 4863 Nat.
Organiser—Miss G. Allen.

The organiser would be glad of more paper sellers. She also hopes as many members as possible will attend the Members' Meeting and At Home to-day (Friday).

Fri., Jan. 12.—8, North Street, Quadrant, At Home, 8 p.m.

CANTERBURY AND SOUTH KENT.

Organiser—Miss F. E. M. Macaulay, Trevarra, 30, Bouverie Road West, Folkestone.

The organiser feels sure she is voicing the wishes of the members of the Canterbury and South Kent W.S.P.U. in associating them with herself in an expression of deep sympathy with their fellow-members of this district who are related to the late Miss Cecilia Haig, in their bereavement. Kentish Suffragists, as well as Miss Haig's northern comrades, will feel that the best tribute they can render to her memory is to carry on with strenuous vigour and self-denial the work to which she devoted her energies, and for which she gave her life. The spring campaign in South Kent is opening with a meeting on Friday next (see below). Members are urgently asked to make a point of being present, and to bring with them as many friends as possible. The Dover local secretary will be glad if all Suffragists travelling by the Calais and Ostend boats will ask for the paper, VOTES FOR WOMEN, as she has arranged to have it supplied.

Fri., Jan. 19.—Canterbury, County Hotel, by kind permission of Mrs. Tomkins, 3 p.m.

HASTINGS AND ST. LEONARDS.

Organiser—Miss D. A. Bowker. Shop—3, Trinity Street, Hastings. Telephone N. 794.

The organiser wishes to express her heartiest thanks to all those who kept the shop open during her absence, to all who helped forward the sale of tickets for last Monday's meeting, and to the stewards and helpers at the meeting. Members are urged to bring unconverted and anti-militant friends to next Monday's At Home. The nucleus of a Suffrage library has been started in the shop. Will any members who have books dealing with the question, or of interest to Suffragettes, be willing to lend them? Terms of subscription, 1d., 2d., and 3d. per week. Funds are urgently needed to meet the rent and rates. All contributions should be sent to the hon. treasurer at above address.

Mon., Jan. 15.—Hastings, 3, Trinity Street, At Home, Miss K. Douglas Smith, 4-6 p.m.

OXFORD.

Hon. Sec.—Miss Graham, 27, Norham Road.

Miss Fripp has been obliged to resign the literature secretaryship. Miss Jennings, 6, Cornmarket, has kindly taken her place. Many thanks to Miss Fripp for all she has done for the local Union. On Sunday, Jan. 7, Mr. Richards spoke at a meeting of the Independent Labour Party. A resolution calling on the Government to make Woman Suffrage an integral part of the Manhood Suffrage Bill, was passed by a large majority.

Fri., Jan. 12.—Witney, Blanket Hall, Mrs. Richards, Mr. Crook. Chair: Miss Graham, 7.30 p.m.

PORTSMOUTH AND SOUTHAMPTON.

Organiser—Miss C. A. L. Marsh, 4, Pelham Road, Portsmouth, and 61, Oxford Street, Southampton.

Open-air meetings have started again, and members are urged to attend. Jumble Sales will be held in April. Will friends save old clothing, etc.? Members

LONDON MEETINGS FOR THE FORTHCOMING WEEK.

January. Friday, 12	4, Clements Inn, W.C.	Speakers' Class, Miss Rosa Leo	7.45 p.m.
" "	Hackney Baths, Lower Clapton Road, N.E.	Miss Guttridge	8 p.m.
" "	Kilburn, Messina Avenue	N.W. London Members	8 p.m.
Saturday, 13	905, Fulham Road, S.W.	Jumble Sale	2 to 9 p.m.
" "	Harlesden, Manor Park Road	Miss Lennox, Miss E. Lowy	8 p.m.
" "	Ilford, Balfour Road	Miss Bonwick, B.A.	8 p.m.
" "	Kilburn, Birchington Road	Mrs. McKeown, Miss M. Rogers	8 p.m.
" "	" Messina Avenue	Miss E. Myers, Miss Bowen	8 p.m.
" "	New Barnet, The Triangle	Miss Glover	8 p.m.
" "	Palmer's Green, 4, Stonard Road	Members' Meeting	3 p.m.
" "	Walthamstow, Church Hill	Mrs. Dacre Fox, Mrs. Heard	—
" "	Wimbledon Broadway	Miss Gwen Richard, Mrs. Huggett	7 p.m.
Sunday, 14	Wimbledon Common	Mrs. Bouvier; Chair: Mrs. Lamartine Yates	3 p.m.
Monday, 15	Croydon, 50, High Street	Competition Evening, Miss C. J. Green	8 p.m.
" "	Kilburn, Messina Avenue	Miss E. Myers, Mrs. Gibbs	8 p.m.
" "	**London Pavilion, Piccadilly Circus, W.**	**Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Miss Christabel Pankhurst, LL.B.**	**3.15 p.m.**
Tuesday, 16	Hampstead, 178, Finchley Road	Working Party	3 to 5 p.m.
" "	West Ham, 90, Cecil Road, Upton Manor	Drawing-room Meeting. Hon. Mrs. Haverfield; Hostess: Mrs. Parker	7.30 p.m.
Wednesday, 17	Chelsea, 308, King's Road	Committee Meeting	5.30 p.m.
" "	Ealing, 72, Argyle Road	Committee Meeting	—
" "	Hammersmith, 40, Melrose Gardens	Important Meeting	8 p.m.
" "	Harlesden, Manor Park Road	Mrs. McKeown, Miss Hoffman	8 p.m.
" "	Ilford, Town Hall (outside)	Miss M. Harvey	8 p.m.
" "	Kensington, 2, Campden Hill Square	Annual General Meeting (members only)	3 p.m.
" "	" " " "	At Home, Dr. L. Garrett Anderson, Rev. E. Hounslow	4 p.m.
" "	Wimbledon, 55, The Broadway	Members' At Home	3 to 5 p.m.
" "	" " " "	Jumble Sale	7 to 10.30 p.m.
Thursday, 18	**Steinway Hall, Lower Seymour Street, Portman Square, W.**	**Miss Christabel Pankhurst, LL.B., and Mrs. Pertwee**	**8 p.m.**
Friday, 19	4, Clements Inn, W.C.	Speakers' Class, Miss Rosa Leo	7.45 p.m.
" "	Hackney Baths, Lower Clapton Road, N.E.	Miss Naylor	8 p.m.
" "	Leytonstone, G.E.R.	Miss Lennox	8 p.m.

N.B.—A Mass Meeting will be held on the Albert Hall on Thursday, March 28; for particulars see page 220.

Frederick Gorringe, Ltd
Buckingham Palace Road
LONDON . S.W.

Half a Century's Reputation for Value

One Minute from VICTORIA

WINTER SALE
Now Proceeding.

Petticoats at greatly reduced prices. (Sketch below).

Soft Silk Moirette Petticoats, in the new shape, very reliable quality. In Helio, Mole, and Green fancy stripe. Usual price, 18/9. Sale Price, 11/9.

Some Representative Sale Values.

Remarkable Values in Petticoats. (Sketch below).

Good quality Petticoats, in Cotton Moirette, in a variety of colours, Mole, Brown, Helio, Prune, Green, Black and White, &c. Usual Price, 6/11. Sale Price, 4/11

Extraordinary Value in Seal Coney Coats.
500 only.—Made of lovely rich skins in several designs. Collars can be worn in 2 ways; lined fine quality rich soft satin, in new tones of saxe, oystergrey, dark tan, helio, etc. In very small, small, medium, large and extra large size. Various lengths as follows:—

	Usual Price.	Sale Price.
30in.	7 gns.	5 gns.
33in.	8 gns.	5½ gns
36in.	9 gns.	6 gns.
40in.	11 gns.	7 gns.
52 or 54in.	13 gns.	8 gns.

Special Bargains in Blouse Suits.
K 109. — Dainty Blouse Suits, of fine woollen materials with silk finish, trimmed with Black Russia Braid and small Black Buttons, outlined with Self-colour Russia Braid to tone, and completed at neck and bodice with a dainty frill of soft Beige Colour Lace of unique design. Special Sale Price, 35/9.

Great Reductions in Fur Coats.
100 only.—Fur-lined Coats in Coloured-Faced Cloth, Self-Coloured Frieze, Serge, Tweed, etc. Large Handsome Collars of Natural (Grey), or Mole, Opossum, Nutria-Beaver, Seal Coney, Skunk Opossum, etc., lined Squirrel lock. Usual Price, 4 to 7 Gns. Sale Prices, 2½ & 3 Gns.

CHIVERS' CARPET SOAP 6D. PER BALL

is the best carpet cleaner in the world. It removes ink, grease, and all dirt from carpets and woollen fabrics. A damp cloth—a little Chivers' Soap—a carpet like new without taking it up. Sample ball sent post free 3d. stamps.
F. Chivers & Co., Albany Works, Bath.

WOMEN IN INDUSTRY.

Suffragists desiring information as to the Conditions under which Women Work should read the columns of the

LABOUR LEADER,

in which Factory and Public Health Law is explained by an expert.

Every Friday. One Penny.

Publishing Offices: 20, Blackfriars Street, Manchester.

meetings will be held shortly to arrange the work of the next few months. Particulars will be given later.
Fri., Jan. 12.—Portsmouth, near St. Mary's Church, 7.15 p.m.
Mon., Jan. 15.—Portsmouth, Town Hall Square, 7.15 p.m.

READING AND NEWBURY.
Shop and Office—49, Market Place.
Hon. Sec. (*pro tem.*).—Miss O. L. Cobb.

A lending library has been started this week. The preliminary catalogue can be had on application to the hon. secretary. Charge for borrowing is 2d. per volume per week. Gifts of suitable books, or money with which to buy them, will be most acceptable.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS.
Office—11, Ye Pantyles.
Hon. Secs.—Mrs. Harverson, Miss Walton.

An office is being opened this week, hours 10—12.30, 2.30—6 p.m. (Saturdays excepted), in the town's most fashionable promenade. Arrangements are being made to hold a large drawing-room meeting at the Grand Hotel on Jan. 20. Many thanks to the various members who have so kindly helped in providing office furniture. A few more chairs would be very acceptable. Gratefully acknowledged: Miss Yeoman, £5; Miss Walton, 10s.; Miss Durham, 10s.; Miss Overton, 2s. 6d.; Miss Briggs, 5s.; Mrs. Ireland, 10s.
Tues., Jan. 16.—Committee meeting, 2.45 p.m. Members' meeting, 3.15 p.m.

WEST AND NORTH KENT.
Organiser—Miss Evelyn Billing, 120, Rock Avenue, Gillingham.

Work has begun again. On Monday, February 12, there will be a ticket meeting at the Masonic Hall, Balmoral Road, Gillingham—particulars later; in the meantime an extensive open-air campaign will be carried on. Volunteers for paper-selling are much needed. The organiser will be glad to accept any invitations to address societies and clubs, political or otherwise.
Fri., Jan. 12.—Gillingham, King Street, 7.30 p.m.
Sat., Jan. 13.—Maidstone, High Street (near Bridge). Chair: Mrs. McVie, 11.30 a.m.
Mon., Jan. 15.—Chatham, near Town Hall. Chair: Mrs. Rumsby, 7.30 p.m.
Tues., Jan. 16.—Sittingbourne, High Street, 7.30 p.m.
Fri., Jan. 19.—Rochester, bottom of Star Hill. Chair: Miss Sharman, 7.30 p.m.

WORTHING.
Hon. Sec.—Miss C. Home, Salvington Mill.

The usual weekly work meeting will be held this week at Sunbeam House, Rowland Road, at 3 p.m., when it is hoped a good number of members will be present.

The Midlands.

BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT.
Office—97, John Bright Street. Tel., 1443 Midland.
Organisers—Miss Dorothy Evans and Miss Gladys Hazel.

The first weekly meeting will be held on January 17, when it is hoped to have all the local prisoners present. Plans for the New Year's work will be discussed. A special appeal is made to all local members not to be content to attend the meetings themselves or with fellow-members, but to bring strangers, or waverers. Office stewards and canvassers are wanted, also volunteers for the two poster parades a week. Will members who can help in any way at all, for however short a time weekly, let the organiser know what she can do?
Wed., Jan. 17.—Birmingham, Queen's College, the Birmingham Prisoners, 8 p.m.

COVENTRY.
Office—33, Earl Street. Organiser—Miss Markwick.

The organiser hopes that the coming year will be a very successful one in gaining many new members. Mrs. Pankhurst's meeting on January 23 will make a splendid beginning. Members are asked to do their utmost to make this meeting most successful. Will members volunteer to distribute bills at the queues of the Hippodrome, the Opera House, and the Empire?
Thursday, Jan. 18.—Leamington, Trocadero, London Speaker, 7.30 p.m.

NORTHAMPTON.
Hon. Sec.—Miss Miller, 393, Wellingboro Road.

Miss Christabel Pankhurst's meeting has now been fixed for Saturday, February 3, in the Palace Theatre, Gold Street, Northampton, at 3 p.m. Will all members in Northampton and district please do their best to make this meeting widely known? Reserved tickets, 1s., may be had from Miss Miller, who will also be glad of members' help.

NOTTINGHAM.
Office—6, Carlton Street. Tel., 4511.
Organisers—Miss Roberts and Miss Crocker.

The shop is now open again. Will members who have not paid their subscriptions to the Shop Fund up to date please send them to Miss Hickling at above address? A new subscriber has promised 5s. a month till the vote is won. Who will follow her example?

West of England.

BATH.
Shop—12, Walcot St. Hon. Organiser—Mrs. Mansel.

The shop has reopened, and work will now be taken up again with renewed vigour. The weekly meetings will take place on Friday evenings at the Guildhall, and as this change has been made with a special view to suiting many who cannot attend in the afternoons, it is hoped that members will do their best to get good audiences for the excellent speakers secured. Sincere thanks to Sir Daniel and Lady Tupper, who have kindly promised to give a drawing-room meeting on Saturday, January 20. The foremost object during the next month will be to get new subscribers for the paper. Who will send in names?
Fri., Jan. 19.—Guildhall (Sessions Court), Mrs. Pertwee. Chair: Mrs. Mansel, 8 p.m.
Sat., Jan. 20.—Doric House, Sion Hill. Hostess: Lady Tupper. Mrs. Pertwee, Mrs. Mansel, 3 p.m.

BRISTOL.
Office—37, Queen's Road, Clifton. Tel., 1345.
Hon. Sec.—Mrs. Dove-Willcox. Hon. Treas., Mrs. Young.

There will be a Poster parade to-day (Friday), at 11 o'clock sharp, to advertise the first At Home of the season. Will members make a special note of this parade as it is very important that a good number should attend? Gratefully acknowledged: Mrs. B. Stephens, £1; Miss Amy Paul, 10s.; A friend, 5s.; Mrs. Trafford, 5s. Tickets for Prisoners' Reception, price 1s. each.
Mon., Jan. 15.—Victoria Rooms, At Home. Speaker Mrs. Mansel, 3.30 p.m.
Tues., Jan. 16.—Victoria Rooms, Prisoners' Reception, 8 p.m.
Thurs., Jan. 18.—Kingsley Hall, Old Market Street. Speaker: Mrs. Dove-Willcox, 8 p.m.

CHELTENHAM.
Hon. Sec.—Mrs. W. L. Mellersh, Berghelt, Painswick Road.

It is hoped to hold a drawing-room invitation meeting on Saturday, January 20, when Mrs. Pertwee will speak. Miss Flatman was very successful in the sale of surplus goods from the Woollen Stall. Members are reminded that there are still some woollen garments for sale at 2, Vittoria Walk.

FALMOUTH AND PENRYN.
Hon. Organiser—Mrs. F. Corbett, The Bungalow.
Hon. Joint Secs.—Mrs. Pascoe, Mrs. English.

Members are urged to do their utmost to make Mrs. Mansel's meetings (see below) a success. From Tuesday, January 16, the social evenings will be held at the Town Hall, Falmouth, fortnightly, at 8 p.m. Gratefully acknowledged:—The first instalment of a 3s. monthly subscription from Mrs. Thorne and Mrs. and Miss Powell, of Roseleigh, Penzance, and the offer of a beautiful velvet and lace workbag to raffle at coming jumble sale.
Tues., Jan. 16.—Falmouth, Town Hall, Mrs. Mansel. Chair: Mr. Mervyn J. Stewart, 8 p.m.
Thur., Jan. 18.—Penryn Town Hall, Mrs. Mansel, 8 p.m.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE.
Organiser—Miss Flatman, Apsley Hotel, Spa Road, Gloucester.

Members and friends will be glad to know that the total receipts for the Woollen Stall amounted to £100 10s. This will be used for the Gloucestershire campaign. Anyone who can arrange a sale of work can have the things left over to dispose of while saleable. Offers of drawing-rooms for meetings will be gladly welcomed, also introductions to friends. Helpers are wanted at open-air meetings; all offers of help should be sent to the organiser at once. Miss Gertrude Llewelyn is thanked for her very efficient and generous assistance.

ILFRACOMBE AND BARNSTAPLE.
Hon. Sec. and Treasurer—Mrs. du Santoy Newby, St. Mary's, Broad Park Avenue, Ilfracombe.
Hon. Lit. Secretary—Miss Ball, Nursing Home, Larkstone, Ilfracombe.

Members, please do your best to attend the meeting (see below). Gratefully acknowledged: Mrs. Johnston, 2s.
Mon., Jan. 15.—St. Mary's, Broad Park Avenue, members' meeting, 4 p.m.

TORQUAY AND PAIGNTON.
Hon. Sec.—Mrs. Haine, Seaweed, St. Andrew's Road, Paignton.

Will members and friends kindly note that the next At Home will be held on Wednesday (see below). It is hoped that as many as possible will try and be present. More helpers are needed to canvass for the sale of VOTES FOR WOMEN.
Wed., Jan. 17.—Paignton, St. Leonards, Kernow Road, At Home. Hostesses, Mrs. Honey, Mrs. Weaver. 3.30 p.m.

Eastern Counties.

IPSWICH AND DISTRICT.
Shop—Dial Lane, Ipswich. Organiser—Miss Grace Roe, 19, Silent Street, Ipswich. Shop Secs.—Miss King.

Wed., Jan. 17.—Ipswich, Co-operative Hall, At Home, Mrs. Pankhurst. Hostesses: Mrs. C. K. Norman, Mrs. Douglas-Reid, Mrs. J. B. Cullingham, Miss L. Roe, 3 p.m.

NORWICH AND DISTRICT.
Organiser—Miss Margaret West, 6, Essex Street.
Temporary Shop—5, Exchange Street (next to Jarrold's), Norwich.

Members and sympathisers are asked to devote every moment of the remaining days before the St. Andrew's Hall meeting to canvassing the women on the municipal register. A list of names will be supplied to all who have not yet had one on application at the shop. A final special effort should be made with the reserved tickets, and those remaining unsold must be returned to-morrow (Saturday) evening without fail. A list of open-air meetings is given below, and help in paper-selling, distributing handbills, &c., is needed at every one of them. More stewards are urgently required for St. Andrew's Hall.
Fri., Jan. 12.—Sheringham, Shortacre, Drawing-room Meeting, Miss Georgina Brackenbury, Miss Katherine Browne. Hostess: Mrs. Walker, 3 p.m.; Town Hall, Miss Georgina Brackenbury, Miss Katherine Browne, 8 p.m.
Sat., Jan. 13.—Norwich, St. George's Plain, Miss Brackenbury, 1 p.m.
Mon., Jan. 15.—Norwich, Carrow Works, Dinner Hour Meeting, Miss Brackenbury, 1.30 p.m.; Market Place, Miss K. Jarvis, 8 p.m.
Wed., Jan. 17.—Norwich, St. Andrew's Hall, Mrs. Pankhurst, Miss Brackenbury, 8 p.m.

YARMOUTH.
Hon. Sec.—Miss K. M. Guthrie, 21, Crown Road.

Attention is called to the open-air meeting to be addressed by Miss Brackenbury to-morrow (Saturday). Members are urgently asked to be present, in order to help sell tickets, papers, and distribute handbills. Stewards are wanted to make this meeting a success. Volunteers for house-to-house canvassing and for distributing leaflets are also needed. Please send in your names at once to Miss Guthrie, and let her know what days you will give.
Sat., Jan. 13.—Yarmouth, Church Trees, Market Place, Miss Brackenbury, Miss Jarvis, 7 p.m.
Tues., Jan. 16.—Yarmouth, Market Place, Miss Brackenbury, 8 p.m.
Thur., Jan. 18.—Yarmouth, Town Hall, Mrs. Pankhurst. Chair: Dr. James Ryley, 8 p.m.

North-Eastern Counties.

BRADFORD.
Office—68, Manningham Lane. 'Phone 4038.
Hon. Sec.—Mrs. Beldon, 9, Walmer Villas.
Hon. Treas.—Mrs. Hardy Behrens.

Will members make a point of attending the shop and bringing their friends, especially on Monday afternoon (see below). This is a splendid opportunity of getting to know each other better, for arranging the work, and for general discussion, and so far these meetings have been most helpful and well-attended, but judging by the membership list there ought to be a still larger attendance. New subscribers to VOTES FOR WOMEN are needed; Miss Beldon will be glad to have names.
Mon., Jan. 15.—At Home, 4 to 6 p.m.

HALIFAX AND HUDDERSFIELD.
Organiser—Miss Annie Williams, 1, Fitzwilliam St. West, Huddersfield.

Members will be glad to hear that Miss Georgina Brackenbury will speak in Huddersfield and Halifax during the first week in February. Particulars will be given later, and members must do their best to make these meetings a success. They are also reminded that helpers are wanted for Monday's meeting. Who will give drawing-room meetings? The organiser will be At Home on Monday next, from 2 to 4.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT.
Office—3, Cookridge Street.
Organiser—Miss Mary Phillips.

The first of the special school meetings, which will be held in various districts, leading up to Miss Pankhurst's meeting on Jan. 25, will take place next Wednesday (see below). Mrs. Cohen has made herself responsible for the working up of this meeting. Mrs. Swalles is responsible for the next one, and will be glad of helpers. Members will be delighted to hear that Mrs. J. E. M. Brailsford has kindly promised to speak with Miss Pankhurst on Jan. 25.
Mon., Jan. 15.—Leeds, Women's Labour League, Labour Rooms, Harehills Lane, Miss Mary Phillips, 8.15 p.m.
Tues., Jan. 16.—West Leeds, S.D.P., Socialist Institute, Sutherland Street, New Wortley, Miss Mary Phillips, 8 p.m. 3, Cookridge Street, Speakers' Class, 7.30 p.m.
Wed., Jan. 17.—Harehills School, Miss Mary Phillips. Chair: Mrs. Cohen, 7.30 p.m.

SCARBOROUGH.
Shop—39, Huntriss Row.
Hon. Sec.—Miss N. Vickerman, 7, The Valley.

Members are reminded of the Jumble Sale, which will be held as soon as sufficient articles have been gathered. Contributions from members or friends of the cause will be gratefully received at the shop, or collected, if address is sent in. Will members who can help at the sale please send in their names? Thanks to Miss Bremner for having the shop thoroughly cleaned while closed for the Christmas holidays.

North-Western Counties.

BIRKENHEAD.
Hon. Sec.—Mrs. A. E. Abraham, 2, Kingsmead Road, S.

Will members or their friends who wish to take part in the "Pageant of Famous Women" at the Philharmonic Hall, on February 2, please send in their names to Miss Davies, 11, Renshaw Street, Liverpool, at once, and also go and see her as she can fix no characters without a personal interview? Helpers will be needed to sell tickets for that meeting. Please volunteer.

Telephone: 7529 Gerrard. Established: 1899.

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(Five minutes' walk from Oxford Circus.)

BOLTON, BURY, AND DISTRICT.
Hon. Sec. (*pro tem.*)—Mrs. Margaret E. Farrington, 118, Dorset Street, Haulgh, Bolton.

Gratefully acknowledged: New Year's Gift, F. W. O., 2s. 6d.; Mrs. F. W. Coope, Sale of Theatre Bags, 17s. 6d.; Loan of Books, 9d.; Miss M. Martin, 4s.

MANCHESTER.
Office—32, King Street, W.
Hon. Sec.—Miss L. Williamson.

Members' meetings have been changed from Thursday evenings to Fridays. An excellent weekly attendance is expected by the workers. There is work for all.

Scotland.

ABERDEEN.
Organiser—Miss Lilias Mitchell. Shop—7, Bon-Accord Street. Hon. Sec.—Miss Emily Fussell.

The sale of VOTES FOR WOMEN has kept on steadily during holiday times. Mrs. Lyons and Miss Fussell sold 100 copies in Union Street in New Year week. Members are urged to come forward for this work, and give one hour weekly to the Market Street pitch. Many thanks to Miss Leitch and Miss Smith for arranging and working up the excellent meeting which took place at Peterhead last Friday. Miss Bain very kindly presided, and made an effective appeal for members. Everyone will be pleased to hear that Miss Winifred Mayo will speak in Aberdeen next week, and it is hoped members will bring friends to the meeting.
Tues., Jan. 16.—Lyne of Skene Library Association, 8 p.m.

EDINBURGH AND EAST OF SCOTLAND.
Office—8, Melville Place, Queensferry Street.
Organiser—Miss Lucy Burns. Shop Sec.—Miss E. Hudson. Tel.: 6122 Central.

On Saturday, January 20 (please note change of date), a café chantant will be held in Lauriston Hall, 28, Lauriston Street, from 3 to 6 and from 7.30 to 9 p.m. A splendid programme has been arranged. A short play will be given (adapted from Barrie) by Miss Mary Macmillan. The afternoon performance will be opened by Miss Mary Carr Lees. Members are asked to help with the sale of tickets and to send donations of scones and cakes for the tea service to Mrs. Charlton.

GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND.
Shop and Office—562, Sauchiehall Street.
Tel., 518, Charing Cross. Hon. Sec.—Miss F. McPhun. Organiser—Miss Parker.

Preparations for Mrs. Pethick Lawrence's Scottish Tour are now well in hand. Local members are looking forward to hearing Mrs. Pethick Lawrence speak on January 24, at an afternoon At Home in Charing Cross Halls, at which several well-known members have kindly promised to act as hostesses. In the evening of the same day, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence will speak at Ayr Town Hall; the chair will be taken by Miss Janie Allan. Members are urgently requested to call at the shop and say what time they can spare for canvassing and selling tickets for this meeting. The organisers are also arranging a meeting for Mrs. Pethick Lawrence at Perth, and will be glad to have names of friends and sympathisers in that town.

CATHOLIC W.S. SOCIETY.
Hon. Sec.: Miss Beatrice Gadsby, B.A. Hon. Treas.: Miss Monica Whately.
Office—81, Blandford Street, Baker Street, W.

A big reception for members is being arranged for the third or fourth week of January. Full particulars will be given later. All members are particularly requested to be present, if possible. Funds are still urgently needed for the rent and office expenses and for campaign fund. Gratefully acknowledged:—Miss Martyn, 2s. 6d.

NEW CONSTITUTIONAL SOC. FOR W.S.
President—Mrs. Cecil Chapman.
Office—8, Park Mansions Arcade, Knightsbridge (opposite Tube Station).

Thanks to the members and friends who made the Twelfth Night Party such a success. The Society has been busy taking a canvass of all members of the House of Commons. The result of this interesting canvass will be dealt with at Tuesday's At Home by Mrs. Cecil Chapman. The speakers will be the Right Hon. Sir John Gorst and Miss Katharine Bathurst. Volunteers for advertising and selling tickets for the Matinée at Kingsway Theatre, on March 21, will be welcome.

BELFAST WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETY.
Office—23, Wellington Place, Belfast.

On Monday, January 15, Miss Eva McKisack will attend the office to enrol members wishing to join the Speakers' Class she is forming. A Jumble Sale in aid of the rent fund will be held on Saturday, January 27. Will friends please send contributions on the Friday previous, or the secretary will arrange to send for goods on receipt of a postcard. Paper-sellers and volunteers to take office-duty are badly wanted as it is most important that the paper should reach the public at the present time. Subscriptions are now due.

FREE CHURCH LEAGUE FOR W.S.
Hon. General Secs.—Rev. C. and Mrs. Fleming Williams, 3, Holmbury View, Clapton, N.

New branches have been formed at Salisbury and Plymouth, and others are being considered for Edinburgh and Wales. A meeting will be held shortly at Pinner, when the speaker will be the Rev. H. Clark. Details will be given later.

IRISH WOMEN'S FRANCHISE LEAGUE.
Office—Antient Concert Buildings, St. Brunswick Street, Dublin.

Many who have attended the recent operas produced in Dublin by the Quinlan Opera Company will be glad to know that the principals have kindly promised to sing at an At Home, being arranged to take place in January, in the Aberdeen Hall, from 4 to 6 p.m. A special item of the programme will be the singing of the "Woman's March" (composed by Dr. Ethel Smyth) by Miss Muriel Terry. Tickets can be had at League Rooms at 2s. each.

THE CHURCH LEAGUE FOR W.S.
Offices—11, St. Mark's Crescent, Regent's Park, N.W.

Fri., Jan. 12.—Meeting at Alan's, 263, Oxford Street, W., Rev. C. Hinscliff, 3 p.m.; Brighton and Hove Members' Meeting at 68, Rutland Gardens, Hove, 5.30 p.m.
Mon., Jan. 15.—Anerley Branch Meeting, 149, Croydon Road, 8.15 p.m.; Oxford Half-Yearly Branch Meeting in Parish Room, St. Mary-the-Virgin's, 2.30 p.m.
Wed., Jan. 17.—Richmond and Kew Branch Annual Meeting at Glengariff, Kew Road, Richmond.

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All advertisements must be prepaid. To ensure insertion in our next issue, all advertisements must be received not later than Tuesday afternoon. Address, the Advertisement Manager, VOTES FOR WOMEN, *4, Clements Inn, W.C.*

MARRIAGE.

McMANUS — MACKENZIE. — James McManus, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., of Beaumaris, and Marion Ellen Mackenzie, M.B.Ch.B., of Scarborough, married January 1, 1912. At Home, Beaumaris, February 2 and 3.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS.

MISS KERR (W.S.P.U.), has several umbrellas, a necklace, and a variety of other articles left at the Christmas Fair and Fête.

THE W.S.P.U. has for Sale a Microscope in Case, and fifty-seven slides. Price £6 6s., or would consider best offer.—Apply Mrs. Sanders, W.S.P.U., 4, Clements Inn, W.C.

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BARON'S COURT, BOSCOMBE, BOURNEMOUTH.—High-class Boarding Establishment. Moderate.

BOARD-RESIDENCE offered by Lady to students, visitors to London, and others. Moderate terms.—Miss Kilbey, 5, Guilford Street, Russell Square, W.C.

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SUFFRAGETTES, spend your Winter Holidays at SUNNY BRIGHTON. — Comfortable board-residence with Miss Turner, "Sea View," Victoria Road, Brighton. Nat. Tel. 1702. Terms moderate.

SUNNY PAIGNTON.—Ramleh Private Hotel. First-class cooking and service. South aspect. Extensive sea views. Separate tables, £2 2s. weekly inclusive.—Lady Manager.

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WORKING LADIES' CLUB, unfurnished or furnished vacancies. Rents, 8s. 6d., 10s. 6d.; Food, 9s. 6d. Use of club rooms.—Secretary, Connaught Club, 136, Elgin Avenue, Paddington, London.

TO LET, Etc.

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SUFFRAGIST wishes to find lady to share Comfortably Furnished Flat, January to July, close to Battersea Park.—Write Miss M. Tew, Upham Rectory, Southampton.

WANTED.

CAN any one recommend a really modern Boarding School for Young Girls? Within two hours from London; Suffragist ideas.—"E.," VOTES FOR WOMEN Office, 4, Clements Inn, W.C.

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MEMBER A.P.L. wants children, 9 to 14, of good class, as apprentices for classical dancing. Exceptional opportunity. No premium.—Write only Margaret Morris, 10, Wellington Mansions, W.C.

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LITTLE SALON Friendly Literary Circles, Afternoons and Evenings, at 24, Bloomsbury Square, W.C. Ladies and Gentlemen. Speakers and Non-Speakers. Sub. mod., Refreshments included.—Enquire by letter to "Salon Secretary," same address, for Complimentary Card for one meeting.

MISS HUGOLIN HAWEIS gives lessons in Speaking, Acting, and Reciting; 3 scholarships offered to be competed for December, 1912; classes given in oxonised air at Eustace Miles' Lecture Rooms if desired; Brighton visited weekly.—Apply 8, Ashburnham Mansions, Chelsea.

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TO SUFFRAGIST SPEAKERS.—Miss ROSA LEO, Honorary Instructor in Voice Production, and Public Speaking to the W.S.P.U. Speakers' Class, requests those desirous of joining her private classes or taking private lessons to communicate with her by letter to 45, Ashworth Mansions, Elgin Avenue, W. Separate classes for men. Mr. Israel Zangwill writes:—"Thanks to your teachings, I spoke nearly an hour at the Albert Hall without weariness, . . . while my voice carried to every part of the hall."

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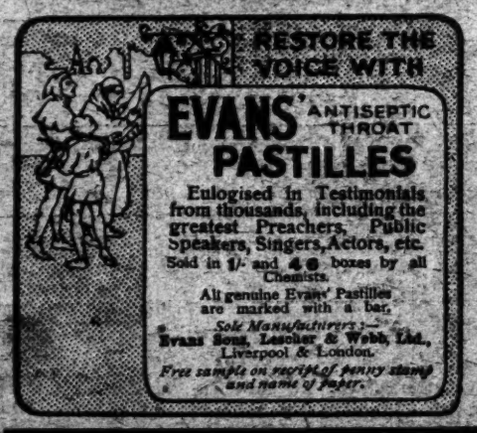

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